



SOCCER ACTION

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CUP FRENZY!

*New star
at Hellas*

Punch-up at the Park



Heidelberg United lost the Victorian Ampol Cup final 5-0 at Olympic Park on Sunday but the pictures above suggest that victor Green Gully Ajax may have lost the fight. Photographer LES SHORROCK was on hand to shoot these graphic photos of Heidelberg goalkeeper Jeff Oliver tangling with Ajax's midfield dynamo Peter Boyle. Above (left), Oliver and Boyle first clash. Then (right), Oliver successfully applies a headlock with his left arm while he uses his right to ...

St. George set for kill, Bergers in trouble Carroll's on the way

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Will St. George win the National League championship? We'll have some sort of an idea after its National Cup match against glamor team Sydney Olympic at St. George Stadium on Sunday.

Can Heidelberg overcome the problems that were so evident in its 0-5 loss to Ajax last Sunday when it takes on Cup opponent Footscray J.U.S.T. at revamped Schinler Reserve?

Is Paul Wormley the super star we're led to believe? We'll see when he leads the West Adelaide attack at Adelaide City.

And will South Melbourne Hellas finally win its first match, or will Macedonia get its revenge for that 0-9 loss to Hellas in a pre-season friendly?

These questions and many more are posed as clubs prepare in a frenzy of excitement for the first Cup round on Saturday and Sunday, the weekend before the NSL kicks off.

Heidelberg faces problems galore as it prepares to meet J.U.S.T. which should have striker Joe Carroll here by then. The Bergers' commitment was nil in the Ampol Cup final after falling behind against Ajax last Sunday and eventually losing 0-5.

Jim Campbell has a deep gash in his leg and may be out for as long as three weeks. Jamie Paton is suspended because he was sent off against Ajax, and Gary Cole may need an operation. He has been playing since the start of the year with a painful ankle injury.

Jim Tansey still has not signed a new contract (that's why, apparently, he didn't play in the Ampol Cup final) and there's still talk that John Yzendoorn may leave the club.

President Sam Gouloupoulos, who has been working hard to overcome the club's problems, and who has been calling for unity, is the victim of a push to oust him.

And coach Ken Morton has his hands full in trying to pick a side under so many handicaps.

It wouldn't surprise to see defender Joe Angele stepping up into the senior team, or Theo Selemidis moving from midfield to attack to partner Derek Lea who made his debut in the Ampol Cup final.

Juan Toro Castillo also may return, while Ken Taylor continues to negotiate for a transfer to Adelaide City.

JUST has been waiting for a long time for Carroll to gain his re-entry permit so he can come back from England. He played last season with State League club Wilhelmina and is an excellent striker.

However, captain Zoran Ilioski still has not signed a new contract with JUST.

St George appears to be the most settled team in continued p. 5



Teenage winger Jim Kalabokis (above) could be starring in the NSL this year with South Melbourne Hellas judging by his stunning four goal performance in the Victorian Buffalo Cup semi-finals last weekend. See page 10 for the story of this youngster's feat.

Scotland, Korea, Mexico

The Australian youth team has been rewarded for its sterling performance in reaching the World Youth Cup finals by being selected to play in the opening match against host nation Mexico in June.

The game, to be played in the gigantic Azteca Stadium in Mexico City, is expected to attract a crowd of 100,000 and in the words of ASF president Sir Arthur George is both an honor and an awesome responsibility.

The draw, for 16 teams from all continents, pits Australia against European champion Scotland, South Korea and Mexico.

ASF officials expressed great satisfaction at the way the draw had worked out.

"We must have a good chance of reaching the second round as one of the top two in our group," said secretary Brian Emery.

"Scotland is rated the best team in Europe, but we beat Mexico 3-0 in November and South Korea are not highly rated at this age group."

Coach Les Schenfield also was very pleased, but conceded that Scotland would be very hard to beat.

"Scotland is the best team in Europe, much better than the Soviet Union, Poland or Czechoslovakia. I saw them win in Helsinki last year and I was very impressed," he said.

"Nerves on the opening day and the altitude are going to play a big part in our perform-



By LES SHORROCK

ance." The opening game will be played on June 2 and the Scotland match will be played on June 5 at Toluca, which, at 8600 feet, is even higher than Mexico City.

Australia meets South Korea in Toluca on June 8, and then, if it qualifies, will play the second round in either Mexico City or Monterrey.

The ASF is hoping to arrange friendly matches in Colorado on the way to Mexico to accustom the boys to higher altitudes, and probably will leave in the middle of April, after a farewell function to honor the youths, hosted by the Mexican Consul-General, Senor Carlos Villamil.

The draw:
Group A: Australia, Mexico, Scotland, South Korea.

Group B: USA, Poland, Uruguay, Ivory Coast.

Group C: Argentina, China, Czechoslovakia, Austria.

Group D: Soviet Union, Nigeria, Netherlands, Brazil.



Australian striker David Mitchell powers between New Zealand opponents Kenny Cresswell (left) and Keith McKay. LAURIE SCHWAB's report of New Zealand's 2-0 victory at Olympic Park is on page 6.



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Paul Kay changes his mind

• All at South Melbourne Hellas were bitterly disappointed last week when Paul Kay rejected Hellas's offer and signed a contract with Sydney City instead.
Kay had been flown to Melbourne for talks, following which he told the Press he was "99 per cent certain" that he'll join Hellas.
But after speaking with his parents in Wollongong and considering Sydney City's offer, Kay decided against moving South.
Kay, formerly with St. George and Wollongong, has spent the past 18 months with Charlton Athletic in England.

Pickering impassable

NEW ZEALAND 2 (Cresswell 47th, Ratcliffe 69th)
AUSTRALIA 1 (Kosmina 36th)
at Mount Smart Stadium, Auckland. First game in a two legged international series.

NEW ZEALAND: Pickering 9, Booth 8, Erick 8, Herbert 8, Armstrong 8, Cresswell 7, Turner 8, Cole 8, Metzger 7 (Henry 83rd), Nelson 7, MacKay 7.

AUSTRALIA: Crook 6, Davidson 6, Ratcliffe 7, Blair 9, Niven 8, Katholos 8, Byrne 8, Christopoulos 7, O'Connor 8 (Soper 67th), Kosmina 7, Mitchell 7.

New Kiwi coach Allan Jones gambled and won a handsome dividend when New Zealand came from behind to stun visitor Australia and win 2-1 at Mount Smart Stadium.

Jones dropped Frank van Hattum, the goalkeeper who performed with distinction for the Kiwis in the 1982 World Cup finals and promoted Barry Pickering into the number one custodian's role.

Pickering didn't let his coach down. On the contrary, he turned in an inspiring performance smattered with a few breathtaking saves to deny the attack minded Australians.

New Zealand played in its now customary 4-4-2 formation, knowing full well that the Socceroos would be the aggressors and hoping to hit them hard on the break.

The Kiwis though didn't forget about the defensive aspects of the game. They knew that Socceroo fullbacks, Alan Davidson and Alan Niven, would surge forward relentlessly so they made sure to follow this pair whenever one or both of them took off into attack.

Keith MacKay constantly harassed Niven, the Brisbane Lions defender, whenever the youngsters tried to overlap.

Coach Jones had brought three "new" faces into his squad.
Glen Adam was a late replacement for captain Steve Sumner whose wife is expecting a baby. Adam, 23, has made 20 international appearances for New Zealand. He stayed on the bench for this clash.

Veteran striker Keith Nelson and ageing defender Ron Armstrong also were called up by Jones. Both performed creditably. Jones' predecessor, John Adshead, had



NZ star Duncan Cole

dropped Nelson, considering him too old for international soccer.

Armstrong, 31, generally is regarded as New Zealand's most talented defender but business commitments forced him to miss the entire 1982 World Cup campaign. He has netted every available domestic honor in a long career, including two Footballer of the Year awards.

New Zealand won this game because it was the fiercer competitor and had a great stroke of luck when St George's defender David Ratcliffe headed into his own net after the Socceroo defence looked bamboozled by Duncan Cole's long throw in.

A word about Cole. He was superb. His task was to link up from midfield with New Zealand's two strikers. Along with Pickering he was the pick of the Kiwis.

John Kosmina opened the scoring in the 36th minute when he turned sharply and struck a low shot through the legs of New Zealand defenders and into the far corner from about 12 metres.

Overseas

GREECE
AEK 2 Kerkira 0, Apollon 0 Panathinaikos 1, Ethnikos 2 Rodos 0, Laris 0, Duxa 0, Makedonikos 1, Aris 0, Panathinaikos 2 OFI 2, Panathinaikos 0 Olympiakos 1, Panathinaikos 1 Iraklis 1, Paok 4 Yvernia 1
AEK..... 13 4 3 33 18 30
Olympiakos..... 12 8 3 30 14 30
Aris..... 11 5 4 23 10 27
Paok..... 10 8 5 32 18 28
Larisa..... 8 5 4 28 20 24

ITALY
Anzoli 3 Catanzaro 2, Cagliari 1 Genoa 1, Cesena 1 Roma 1, Fiorentina 3 Avellino 0, Juventus 4 Udinese 0, Napoli 1 Inter 1, Sampdoria 0 Torino 0, Verona 2 Pisa 1
Roma..... 12 7 2 34 17 31
Verona..... 9 9 3 28 21 27
Juventus..... 9 8 4 28 18 28
Inter..... 7 11 3 27 17 26
Torino..... 6 11 4 20 13 23
Fiorentina..... 8 7 6 25 19 23

SPAIN
Celta 1 Real Betis 2, Real Madrid 1 Salamanca 0, Barcelona 0 Racing 1, Athletic Bilbao 3 Sporting 0, Osasuna 4 Espanol 0, Valencia 1 Atletico Madrid 0, Real Valladolid 2 Real Zaragoza 1, Sevilla 2 Real Sociedad 1

Real..... 18 7 3 45 20 39
Ath. Bilbao..... 16 6 4 30 28 28
Barcelona..... 14 8 4 43 19 38
Sevilla..... 12 7 3 32 23 32
Zaragoza..... 13 5 6 47 29 31
At. Madrid..... 13 5 6 38 32 31

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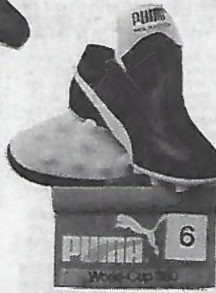
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Andy Burton—pioneer

A great figure in Australian soccer, 79-year-old Andy Burton, passed away last week and we would be remiss in our duty if we failed to honor the grand old man of our sport.

Andy was for decades an ever present landmark at soccer grounds and meetings. His shock of white hair, burly frame and booming voice ensured that he was a name—and notable—participant in the often Machiavellian goings on which are characteristic of soccer in our land.

A quintessential Australian, Andy has probably done more than anyone else to make soccer an accepted part of the sporting scene.

By supporting the dramatic 1968 breakaway from the moribund NSW Soccer Association, he had a major hand to play in the dawning of this sport's all too brief 'golden age' in the early sixties.

When xenophobia reigned supreme and soccer administrators saw their main task in excluding immigrants from a say in the game's running, Andy Burton had the vision and common sense to recognise that "New Australians" were the natural constituency for the round ball game.

He—and naturally his club, that most famous of district clubs, Canterbury-Marickville—did not mind the "stigma" of associating themselves with Hakohs, Prague, APIA and Budapest.

As a result not only the so-called ethnic clubs, but also these major district clubs which threw their lot in with the Federation, prospered beyond all expectations.

It was thus a fitting honor when Andy was elected the first president of the NSW Federation of Soccer Clubs. In the past decade or so he was only a bystander as far as the administration of the code was concerned, but far from a disinterested one.

He was at all the big games and at the Sydney Sports Ground was the undisputed man in charge at the legendary "Watering Hole" beneath the main stand.

There, over a well-stocked fridge, he was the catalyst for many a heated and passionate pre and post match discussion on the past and, yes, the future of the game to which he devoted more than 60 years of his life.

Andy Burton is gone, he will be missed and I hope not forgotten.

Hakoh soccer officials received a bit of a shock with their Sunday morning coffee and donuts recently.

It was in the form of some comments contained in coach Eddie Thomson's regular column, which appears in the Sunday Telegraph.

The generally mind-mannered Eddie was, shall we say, extremely controversial over the loss of young Paul Kay, whom he had his eyes on to strengthen the midfield.

To put it succinctly, the comments were quite nostalgic about the previous one man rule of Andrew Lederer—now gone on to bigger things as Socceroo manager—when compared with the current committee rules at Hakohs.

The upshot of the whole hubbaloob is that:

- A ghost writer at the Telegraph will cop most of the blame.
- Eddie was cited in front of the committee for a "please explain", and
- There were general expressions of embarrassment all round.

In addition, a leading member of the Hakohs Soccer Management Committee emphatically rejected the possibility of ever returning to one man rule in the club.

"That is what has brought about the near downfall of Sydney City Hakohs soccer," he said.

The 2-1 loss against New Zealand last week in Auckland may well have been a very timely and beneficial one—it lessens an international ever can be categorised as beneficial.

Too many voices in and out of the media were making the trip to best little more than a formality for the Soccerroos, and at worse a grand occasion for exacting merciless revenge on the Kiwis for the 1981 World Cup humiliation suffered at their hands.

Les Scheinflug was fast on the way to being promoted to superman status, reminiscent of the sycophantic behaviour of many of our pressmen and officials during the first half of Gutendorf's reign.

No doubt Les recalls vividly that the same admirers were the first ones to turn on Rudi

IN FOCUS

by PETER SCOTT



when things started to backfire.

The current Socceroo coach is cut from a different mould. After all, he has had many years to absorb the mistakes of Rasic, Shoulder, Green and Gutendorf—and learn from them.

What is more, Les Scheinflug does seem to be the best man for the job, no doubt about that.

This does not confer invincibility on either the coach or his team.

He is aware that team building is a gradual process and is interspersed with successes and setbacks.

I just wish administrators and commentators would also absorb this simple fact of life.

How short lived glory can be...

Only about a year and a half ago Qatar and Cameroon set the soccer world on fire at the Youth World Cup in Australia. Now, hardly anyone seems to have noticed their absence

from the field which will appear in Mexico later this season.

The growing number of Australian players heading for Hong Kong has made the headlines recently, described as the "Lure of the East." Strange, my map shows Honkers well to the west of us!

The plush Hakohs Club in Sydney holds its annual meeting on Wednesday, March 24.

Usually these meetings are a tame and boring affair, with members ignoring the proceedings which were little more than a rubber stamp under the autocratic (and that's being uncommonly kind!) setup which is in place.

The hot tip is that 1983 will be somewhat different, with the possibility of a head-on collision between soccer supporters and the majority of Directors who have tired in recent months of their "hobby".

We'll keep you posted in the coming weeks!

Angry Adshead

After remaining tight-lipped for the first three days following his resignation as New Zealand coach, John Adshead has revealed the primary reasons for his shock decision made just a few days before last week's clash against Australia in Auckland.

These were:

- Important decisions, vital to the national team, were made without him being consulted; although he had to convey them to the squad.
- The hierarchy of the NZ federation allegedly failed to appreciate that the players were the most important individuals in the sport, not it.
- The alleged dictatorial attitude of Charlie Dempsey.

It was remarkable that the "marriage of convenience" between the extrovert Adshead and egocentric Dempsey remained intact for so long. Its dissolution marks the end of the most glorious chapter in New Zealand soccer history.

— PAUL MOON

WOLVES SIGN McBREEN

Wollongong City last week found the player who could solve its midfield problems.

Jim McBreen (pictured) the powerful midfielder who can make and score goals, signed a one year contract with the Wolves in a major move that left coach Willie Wallace with the broadest of smiles.

The new Wollongong boss had been searching for a quality midfielder ever since taking over late last year, after coaching APIA. But when it appeared his efforts to secure a quality schemer had failed, up popped McBreen with a free transfer from APIA and the deal with the Wolves became a mere formality.

McBreen was a member of the Wollongong team which made its national league debut in 1981.

But early last year he moved to Sydney Club APIA Leichhardt. Under Wallace's guidance at APIA McBreen became a tremendous asset in a gifted side which later went on to win the Phillips Cup by beating Heidelberg 2-1 in Melbourne, with McBreen earning the accolade of Man of the Match.

McBreen did not hesitate to



Philip Micallef

the Prestons, Dunleavys and Flemings.

"It's just great to be back," McBreen said.

"I used to enjoy playing in Wollongong two years ago and there should be no reason why things should not be the same this year."

Wallace believes the arrival of McBreen should give the side the necessary drive and continuity in midfield—something which was lacking in recent pre-season games.

"Jimmy is a 100 per cent player who enjoys his football," Wallace said.

"He should be the right example for his teammates and he has also got a fair amount of class."

Wallace said that the Wolves would be playing with four midfielders in the national league.

"A 4-3-3 line-up seems to suit my players more," Wallace said.

"With four men in the middle we are more composed and appear to be creating more chances."

McKendry v. Rasic in big charity clash

Coaches Rale Rasic and Len McKendry will be pitted against each other in a clash between a national league select and a Victorian State League select on Wednesday, March 9, in aid of the Bush Fire Appeal.

The game kicks off at 8.15 pm at Olympic Park.

Rasic, the man who took Australia into the 1974 World Cup finals, is in charge of the national league side. McKendry, the most successful coach in the history of the Victorian state team, is taking care of the State League outfit.

Olympic Park's committee of management has thrown its weight behind the charity clash by allowing the VSL free use of the ground, the Olympic Park staff and facilities.

McKendry still had two places to fill in his 16 member State League squad as we went to

press. He was able to confirm that the following players had been selected:

Lou Denys (Ajax); Sean Keogh (Doveton); Peter Lewis (Ajax); Steve Short (Ajax); Stuart Cannell (Ajax); Keith Adams (Croatia); John Dowie (Doveton); Paul Wade (Croatia); John Williams (Ajax); Paul Lewis (Ajax); Carl Gilder (Sunshine-George Cross); Tommy Cumming (Croatia); Ian Roodhouse (Box Hill); David Bregan (Croatia).

All soccer supporters are urged to support this worthy cause. Let's show the Victorian public that soccer people care.

Ron Coutts

Coutts from Aberdeen boosts Uni TASMANIAN SCENE

By WALTER PLESS

It's not often that one finds a qualified coach who also is a qualified physiotherapist. This is the bonus that newly-promoted Tasmanian State League (South) team, University, picked up last season when it appointed 36-year-old Scotsman, Ron Coutts, as senior coach.

Coutts took the students to the league and cup double last year and he looks forward to the challenge of the State League. He is very realistic about the team's chances in the higher echelons of the game.

"If the players can adopt the same attitude in last season, and if we can add a few experienced players to the team, then we'll be able to hold our heads up," he said.

Coutts has had a lot of experience in the big time to back him up. He was physiotherapist to Aberdeen from 1971 until 1978, when he came to Australia. It was during this period that the "Dons" won the Scottish League Cup.

It was at Aberdeen that Ron built up a lasting friendship with Canberra Arrows' coach, George Murray. Even now they're often on the phone to each other. Murray coached Aberdeen for the seven years that Coutts was physiotherapist. Players with Aberdeen

during that time included Martin Buchan, Willie Young, Jim Hermiston, Joe Harper and Gordon Strachan.

Coutts holds the preliminary coaching badge of the Scottish Football Association and served as the physiotherapist on a number of Scottish senior badge courses.

Despite his years in the big time, Coutts enjoys coaching University.

Tasmanian soccer is not a let down. "University is a great club with a good tradition," he says. "There are people here who have been with the club for a long time and their tremendous efforts are entirely voluntary. There are no petty jealousies at this club and our facilities are the best in the State."

He's not wrong about that. The club has two floodlit grounds and a fully-equipped gymnasium. The club also has some useful players.

"Gary Jenkins, Chris Hargreaves, Keith Broadbent and Peter Crowther all have State League experience, and we hope to sign former State coaching director, Steve Darby," says Coutts.

The groups for the 1983 Cadbury League pre-season competition which kicks off on Wednesday, March 9 have been decided.

Group A consists of RAPID-WEST POINT, OLYMPIA, CROATIA-GLENORCHY and CALEDONIANS. Group B teams are JUVENTUS-PIONEER, WHITE EAGLES, METRO-CLAREMONT and UNIVERSITY.

The Rothmans League pre-season competition, which will be run concurrently, also is made up of two groups. Group C teams are SOUTH HOBART, NELSON



UNITED, PHOENIX-LAUDERDALE and HOWRAH, while those in Group D are TAROONA-ST MIRREN, HOBART CITY, CLARENCE and KINGBOROUGH.

Matches in both competitions will be played on Wednesdays (three games each evening) and Sundays (five games) at Grove Road and South Hobart, respectively.

The pre-season tournament is different to that of previous years in that this season there are two separate competitions with a final for each. The two finals will be played on Easter Monday.

In recent friendly matches Rapid-West Point beat University 5-4 and Juventus-Pioneer beat Hobart City 4-2. Donohue scored a hat-trick for Rapid with Mick Southworth scoring the other two. University's scorers were Crowther (2), Shearman and McIlwain.

In the Juventus v. Hobart City encounter, Bruce Ward scored two penalties for Juventus, the remaining scorers being Pace and Frank Genovesi. Hobart City's goalkeeper, Marco Di Ennio, was taken to hospital after only a few minutes of the game with a broken elbow. Carlo Ambrosino caught the eye for Juventus which, incidentally, has named Nick Lapolla as captain this season.

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Boardroom changes recipe for failure

It was interesting to read Peter Katholos' recent "Kat's Corner" column on what makes a good soccer player.



Mike Johnson

I want to follow up Peter's comments and look at what makes a good administrator.

It is generally accepted within soccer that the poor quality of administration at club and federation level is holding back the game more than any other factor. Certainly, I ascribe to that view.

So what makes a good administrator? First, he should possess a stable temperament, never ready to fly off the handle over any one of the numerous problems which are cropping up all the time in the running of a professional club.

It also helps if he has intelligence, is methodical, even better if he has some management training in how to handle people as well as how to introduce and implement forward planning.

But far and away the most important attribute of an administrator is that he must be experienced.

And that is the big problem with our administration, especially at club level.

The constant changing of committees, along with key personnel — presidents, secretaries, and treasurers — means that too few of them are in the job long enough to do well.

Presidents and their committees are voted in and out of power on an annual basis along with their plans, ideas and philosophies.

This is happening among our most powerful national league clubs as well as the minnows in the lower leagues, where it is a little more understandable and pardonable.

It is the very reason that Marconi, a club poised on the edge of greatness, has crumbled and tatters from crisis to crisis.

It is the reason that Sydney Olympic never has won a major trophy in 25 years of existence.

The average is the reason why Sydney City and St George BSC have been at the vanguard of Australian soccer over the last 15 years.

Andrew Lederer, Frank Lowy, Alex Pongrass and Les Boddards are readily recognisable to most soccer followers.

All four are talented administrators and highly experienced from handling the affairs of their respective clubs for many years.

It will be very intriguing to observe how Sydney City will fare now that Lowy and

Lederer are taking a less responsible role in that club's affairs.

I experienced just how volatile the administration of some of our clubs can be during two years with Wollongong United in which we had four different presidents and four different secretaries.

It is the main reason why this potentially fine club with excellent support has not, to date, been able to win promotion to NSW State League, getting within one point on two occasions.

If you look at the situation at JUST, in Melbourne, you find that it is changing its administration almost as often as its coaches.

This is no way to build a foundation for success.

Nick Papas, president of APIA, has hung in there for several years and is the reason why the club has a modicum of stability despite far too many coaching changes.

One very crucial area of our administration which is totally unstable, is that of promotion, public relations and publicity. This is so despite the fact that many of the people in these roles in our top clubs are paid personnel!

At Marconi we have had, in the space of three years, Michael Urukale, George Keith and now Sue Whitechurch.

We have seen the recent appointment and resignation of Steven Blatchford at Sydney Olympic.

His job was at one time offered to Attie Abonyi who was to take on the role of assistant coach and secretary/promotions officer.

You could not get two jobs more different and requiring such different specialisation.

The job offer to Abonyi typifies the unprofessional way this crucial role has been looked at by so many clubs.

Even Sydney City, with its hard-headed approach to most things, managed to employ successfully John Warren, then David Childs, Michael Urukale and now Paul Bayutti in a period of five years to head their publicity and promotions drive along with the important work of finding sponsorship.

Dave McGuire has quit his promotion and secretarial job at Newcastle with the season due to start.

When you consider that many of the aforementioned people were employed in a full time capacity it is a wasteful turnover of personnel.

There is no substitute for experience, in all facets of life. In soccer it applies to players, coaches and administrators alike.

Running a soccer club is as difficult an enterprise as you could wish to take on and key positions must be in the hands of competent, experienced people who know what it is all about.



The Victorian state squad which defeated Queensland 2-0 a fortnight ago. Back row: Arnold Langer (team manager), John Dimitis (VSF president), Peter Lewis, Ken Murphy, Dennis Boland, Jeff Olver, Ian Dobson, Charlie Yankos, Charlie Egan, Stefan Mila, Bob McLachlan (assistant coach). Front: Stan Slazky (assistance team manager), Doug Brown, John Yzendoorn, Steve Wooddin, Jim Campbell, George Campbell, Keith Adams, Paul Lewis, Tim White (coach). Picture by CARLOS PICASSO.

New look Vics a force again

Victory over Queensland in Brisbane was the icing on the cake for a very good all-round performance by the Victorian State team.



TIM WHITE
Victorian coaching director

Taking over the team was a difficult task after its very good performances under previous coach Len McKendry. Victoria had built up a record which made the team second in Australia only to the national teams. This record is the envy of all the other States.

But then other states do not have the foresight and courage of the Victorian Soccer Federations to make International competition part of the programme each year. This, of course, provides tremendous incentive for the players and obviously becomes a vital part of their development.

A change of personnel was just about due in the State team at the time of my appointment. The need for change mainly was brought about by circumstances which are part and parcel of players' careers.

Some players got older, other players endured injuries etc. and the nucleus of the successful Victorian teams under McKendry disintegrated because of the above circumstances.

Players like Kokoska, Tansey, Cumming were hampered by injuries although the latter pair are back and fast making up lost ground. Steve Short was unceremoniously dumped

for a season, John Gardiner got older and made way for younger players, Yakka Banovic went overseas and Peter Laumets just simply lost form.

Steve Blair, Alan Davidson and Gary Cole were rarely available because of international duty and so it was time to put together a new squad.

I have tried out a number of players and I have certainly watched a lot of players and I now feel I am getting much closer to assembling a squad of players that will make Victoria proud.

The signs were evident on the field in Brisbane and, very importantly, these signs also were evident off the field.

The team played with a lot more cohesion and complemented off the ball and supporting on the ball and support for the player on the ball.

The attitude of the players to each other was superb and this contributed greatly to the teamwork.

Players like Kokoska, Tansey, Cumming were hampered by injuries although the latter pair are back and fast making up lost ground. Steve Short was unceremoniously dumped

Putting Dennis Boland in goal before Jeff Olver was one of my hardest decisions as Olver had performed superbly against New York Cosmos. I felt Boland's early season form just gave him the edge on this occasion.

The other difficult decisions was to play Charlie Egan before Paul Lewis as I believe the latter's form for his club, Green Gully Ajax, has been excellent in the Ampol Cup. However, in the very hot and humid conditions I had ideas to introduce the dynamic pace of Paul Lewis later in the game when the heat had taken its toll.

However, the best laid plans of men are not always as simple as Charlie Egan received a very early injury.

The introductions of Ian Dobson proved to be a winner as he performed very well, aided by excellent support from John Yzendoorn. Dobson grew in stature as the game progressed and he won many admirers in the Sunshine State.

George Campbell relished playing in his favourite left wing position and benefited

from the support given to him from full back Charlie Yankos and Jim Campbell and Ken Murphy in midfield. They encouraged wee Georgie to take on his full back whenever one-on-one situations occurred and he responded superbly.

Steve Wooddin showed his class at times and as a central attacker always was showing himself when his teammates had possession.

Yzendoorn is a very determined player at the moment with his eyes firmly fixed on the national team. If he continues with his club and the state team from where he left off in Queensland, I'm sure he will be a national team contender soon.

The nucleus of a good squad now is present and it is my intentions to hold regular sessions with additional players being invited to join them. The door is open for other players to force their way into the squad but I do not intend starting from scratch every time we have a match.

The interest generated by the interstate clash is something that should be built on with possibly a game between Victoria and NSW after the latter plays Queensland in May. These games would provide interest, rivalry and good opportunity for the national coach to see the best in the States playing against each other. This will obviously be a help to him as he prepares his squad for the long build-up to the 1986 World Cup.

STEWART — TWICE BITTEN

Australian youth team midfielder Russell Stewart fast is making a habit of getting two bites of the proverbial cherry — and emerging the second time with the sweet taste of success.

Last week, the former Mount Gravatt midfielder, signed for national league club Brisbane Lions, reportedly in a very handsome deal, yet only eight months ago the youngster walked out of the club after a heated argument with the then coach Joe Gilroy.

Stewart had been trialling with Lions for several weeks, but had not played in the first team. It is understood Lions still were keen to get his signature on a contract before he went to the national under-19 championships but a combination of Stewart's refusal and his sureness of his ability to play in the top grade led to the argument.

BUT NOT SHY

With the walkout in mind, Lions understandably could have snubbed their nose at Stewart this time round. But a combination of coincidences, none so more than Lions' desperate need for a good midfielder and a change of coach, gave Stewart that second bite of the cherry.

Actually, as it turned out, Stewart was proved to be very wise in remaining adamant and not signing last year for he returned from the successful tour of Costa Rica, still as an amateur, Lions and City could not get to him quick enough.

But the fact that Stewart went to Costa Rica highlights another example of the talented Queenslander getting a second chance.

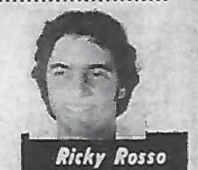
Stewart was one of the star performers in the Queensland youth team which won the national championship in Canberra last season. He caught the eye of national coach Les Schienflug but sur-

prisingly, was not named in the preliminary national youth squad.

The story goes that Schienflug, acting on information from his own Queensland sources, was under the belief that Stewart did not have the right attitude to play for his country. That belief was reinforced by an incident in the national championship semifinal that saw Stewart get a yellow card and miss the final through suspension.

But Queensland team officials, confident in the ability and approach of their captain, were outraged when Stewart was not named in the national squad. They demanded Schienflug come to Queensland for a second look, and after watching him in a trial, being bowled out by a QSF official, and talking to the player, Stewart was invited to attend a training camp.

In the months and tours that followed, Schienflug managed

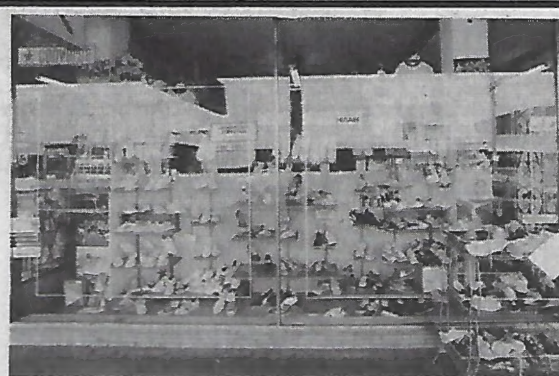


Ricky Rosso

to take the rough edges off Stewart's play and he progressed from being a fringe player to commanding a regular spot and being one of the unsung heroes of the young Socceroos' Costa Rica campaign.

Now, under the direction of Lions' Simon Kistemaker, who is very similar in approach and technique to the national coach, it would not be surprising to see Stewart develop into one of the country's top players.

And if he does, it will be a tremendous achievement from a youngster who began his career as a four-year-old in an under-7's competition.



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Maher, Greedy the stalemate stars



NSW AMPOL CUP

By ALEX VESIC

St George 1 Marconi 1

Ground: Marconi
Crowd: 5496
Referee: Gary Power 9
Yellow cards: Bozanic, Budini, Jankovics, Skjeen.
Goals: Dez Marton (SG), McCulloch (M).

ST GEORGE: Greedy 9, Skjeen 5, R. O'Shea 6, M. O'Shea 7, J. O'Shea 6, Koczka 6 (Fisher 105), Barton 5 (Papas 81), Muskovits 5, Stone 6, Wilkinson 5, Marton 7.

MARCONI: Maher 8, Bozanic 7, Rizzotto 6, Budini 7, Degney 6, McCulloch 7, Carbone 6, Sermanni 6, Brown 5, Jankovics 5, (Djordjevic 84), Licata 5 (Hunter 84).

With seconds remaining in the NSW Ampol Cup final, Marconi scored through Tom McCulloch, its most enterprising player, to earn a deserved draw against St George and a chance to win the cup in tonight's (Wednesday's) replay at Marconi.

St George, minus David Ratcliffe, and Marconi minus Tony Henderson, played at a tremendous pace providing spectators with thrills and spills of a cup final of old.

Saints went into the game as odds on favourites after knocking out Sydney Olympic then Sydney City in convincing style. However, Marconi's coach, Doug Collins, refused to accept the idea of being beaten. Before the match he issued an all out attack order to his players who came terribly close to winning the cup.

In fact, during the first 20 minutes of play in the second period, it was all Marconi with chances coming thick and fast but young Terry Greedy in goal for Saints made miraculous saves to keep his side in the match. Greedy was on the spot to deny Rod Brown in the 51st minute, then made another great save from the same player 30 seconds later.

In the 54th minute it looked like curtains for Saints as

Tommy Sermanni swung at the ball from six metres out but Greedy's anticipation was tremendous as he went to his left to block what looked a certain goal.

Greedy was on the spot to save Saints during the first half as Marconi made some quick breaks through the middle. Attilio Carbone was through after an error by Peter Stone to face Greedy in the 23rd minute but Greedy was in fine touch as he jumped high to deflect the ball away from his net for a corner.

Minutes later, Rene Licata made a fine run but Greedy came out to dive at Licata's feet and block a certain goal.

While Greedy was superb at one end, Alan Maher did enough to learn his billing as second best player on the park. His save from Dez Marton's free kick in the 39th minute could be rated as one of the best save the Marconi keeper has produced — flying high to his left to tip the ball around the post for a corner.

In fact, Maher made the first and possibly the most important save of the match when he came out to face John Muskovits in the second minute. Muskovits appeared to be at least five metres offside but was not flagged after receiving the ball from Paul Wilkinson and went on to find Maher well out of goal. Maher however moved to his left and finger-tipped the ball clear.

Barton's flick shot in the 26th minute was brilliantly saved by Maher but the experienced keeper could not stop a sizzler from Marton in the 65th minute.

Following a through ball by Andrew Koczka, it was David Skjeen who ran away on the right flank who passed a fine looking cross into the penalty area. A poor clearance by Marconi's defence saw the ball bounce once before reaching Marton some 14 metres out.

Marton showed just how dangerous he is and in a flash

had the ball tucked away with a great right foot volley. It was a superb shot which drew a gasp of exasperation from Collins after the match: "You can't leave him alone for a moment, can you?" he said.

Saints could have made it 2-0 with 17 minutes to go after Marton flicked the ball over Marconi's defence for Muskovits to run into the clear, but he made heavy weather of the whole thing, shooting high over the bar.

Marconi came back through McCulloch. Jovan Djordjevic took a free kick and a flick pass by Sermanni saw McCulloch race between two St George players to nudge the ball past the advancing Greedy.

In extra time, Marconi appeared to have more stamina and for the most part had the game under control. In the dying moments Djordjevic came speeding down the right flank before crossing for Brown to slam his first timber just wide of the far post, much to the relief of Saints players.

It appeared to be a just result, with Marconi definitely having the edge but Saints



Marconi goalkeeper Allan Maher.

always looked capable of countering through quick breaks. Robbie Slater, Saints injured forward, was sadly missed.

Djordjevic, who came on for Mark Jankovics late in the game, looked in great form and certainly gave Marconi fans a few thrills during extra time. Jankovics, Marconi's top

goal poacher, hardly was seen during the game, mainly due to some poor service.

Tonight's return match with Saints will be yet another poser for Collins. How to stop Marton? The return of Tony Henderson might solve that problem, while Saints will be hoping for the return of Robbie Slater.

THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF

Sydney City 2 Croatia 1

Ground: Marconi Stadium
Crowd: 5496

Referee: G. Warner 5

Scorers: Reader, Boden

(SC), Honsman (C)

SYDNEY CITY: Pezzano 7,

Mullen 7, Robertson 7, Gomez

7, Bruce 6, Murray 6, Watson

5, Barnes 5, Boden 5, De Mar-

igny 6 (Reader 27) — 6, Leo

5 (Sergeant 58).

CROATIA: Watson 7, Kovic

6, Alex 7, Tomasich 7,

Basic 5, Coyne 6, Woods 6,

Razo 6, Savor 8, Campbell 5

(Galic 66), Carrizzo 6, Hen-

smann 6 (Radman 79).

This was the match which Croatia needed to win to prove its rating as the top State League club. It faced a depleted Sydney City Hakoah but its strikers were not involved enough to worry Tony Pezzano and his defenders.

It was a lack lustre match and one which I am sure will be easily forgotten.

Sydney City Hakoah was the better side for most of this match but was guilty of some glaring misses in front of goal.

Wayne Reader put the Silckers into the lead soon after replacing the injured De Marigny. Following a corner kick by Watson, Ken Boden headed

to the feet of Reader and a snap shot by the youngster beat Steve Watson.

45 seconds later Croatia was on level terms, after Peter Hensman headed past Pezzano from a cross by Drago Rezo.

It was all Sydney City in the second half and it was only a matter of time before the score read 2-1. Boden was on the spot to head home the winner in the 72nd minute to seal the win for the Silckers.

The same player had an ideal opportunity to score yet another in the 80th minute, but tried to walk into the net and lost possession close to the goal line!

Newcastle and Marconi to win

from page one

the NSL. It has lost Robbie Slater who has a broken leg, but has replacements in Muskovits, Feher and Koczka. Apart from that, Saints have a band of tried and true performers — a tight team unit, led by the great Frank Arok and that uncanny striker, Dez Marton, whose goalscoring exploits have been nothing short of amazing in the NSW Ampol Cup.

Olympic has stirred the passion of its supporters by signing big-name players Patikas, Soper and Herbert, and it also boasts brilliant Peter Katholos. It remains to be seen whether or all that individual brilliance will produce a team as cohesive as St George.

In my opinion Saints will win the NSL.

Hellas, like like Olympic, has been rebuilding, managed only three draws and a loss in the Ampol Cup but the team has great potential in top players like Davidson, Russell, Blair, Crino, Murphy, Egan and Woodin.

Makedonia will put up the shutters and hope for a victory through breakaways. Zarko Odzakovic from Vardar Skopje has greatly improved Makedonia's midfield, and midfielder Livingstone has yet to arrive from Scotland.

It looks like a Hellas victory.

Newcastle could be one of the dark horses of the NSL due to the fine play of David Lowe, Bob Mountford, Howard Tredinnick, and the experience of Peter Burke and Gary Watson, the two new centre backs from England.

Without Burke and Watson, who replace Roy Drinkwater and John Sneddon, Newcastle is a very settled side, and it could cause an upset against APIA at the International Sports Centre on Saturday.

Arno Bertogna will strengthen APIA's defence but up front, APIA may be lacking. The Morsello-Valeri-Giampaolo attacking partnership looks great on paper but so far, only Giampaolo has been putting in the required commitment. Sydney City, champion for

the past three years, again will be a formidable combination despite the loss of Jim Patikas and John Spanos. It still hopes to sign a couple of Israeli internationals and it has of course recruited Paul Kay.

However, its recent 0-4 loss to St George in the Ampol Cup prompts me to expect a Marconi victory against Sydney City at Marconi Stadium. Marconi's young team, which includes youth internationals McCulloch, Brown, Licata and Carbone, backed by the experience of Henderson, Bozanic, Maher, Jankovics and Hunter, held St George to a 1-1 draw in the Ampol Cup final.

Paul Wormley, top scorer in the Queensland State League last year, links up with Rothmans Medallist Wally Bojczuk in West Adelaide's attack. Wormley built a strong reputation at Townsville United and should inspire victory against Adelaide City at Hindmarsh. Canberra's winning midfield of Gary Byrne, George Christopoulos and New Zealand international Duncan Cole, should steamroll Wollongong which looks in real danger of facing relegation at the end of the season. A Canberra victory at Seiffert Oval in Queanbeyan on Saturday at 7 pm, hopefully will bring back some of the fans who strayed last year.

First round National Cup matches; with likely winners in capitals:

NEWCASTLE UNITED v APIA — Leichhardt at International Sports Centre, Saturday 3 pm.

CANBERRA CITY v Wollongong — Seiffert Oval, Queanbeyan, Saturday 7 pm.

BRISBANE CITY v Brisbane Lions — Perry Park, Sunday 3 pm.

Adelaide City Juventus v WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS at Hindmarsh Stadium, Sunday 2.30 pm.

ST GEORGE BUDAPEST v Sydney Olympic at St George Stadium, Sunday 3 pm.

MARCONI-DATSON v Sydney City Hakoah at Marconi Stadium, Sunday 3 pm.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS v Preston Makedonia at Middle Park, Sunday 3 pm.

FOOTSCRAY JUST v Heidelberg-Alexander at Schindler Reserve, Sunday 3 pm.

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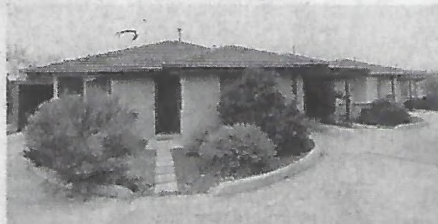
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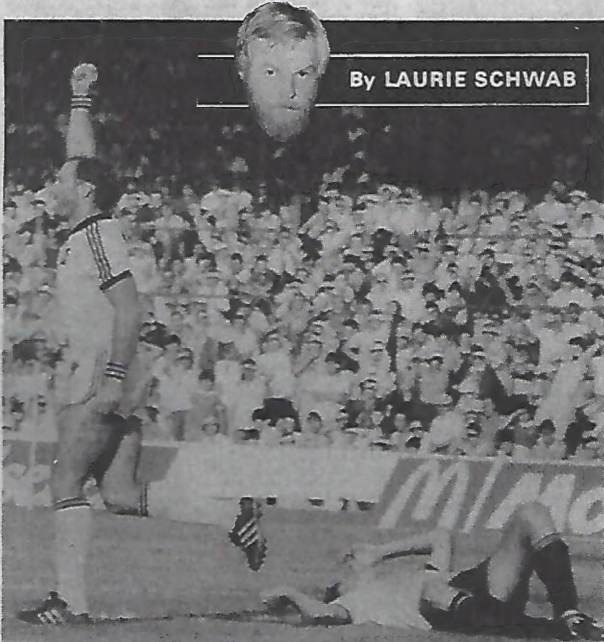
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BERTOGNA TO PARTNER BLAIR?

Changes needed before English clashes in June



By LAURIE SCHWAB

AUSTRALIA 0 NEW ZEALAND 2 (Cole 68th, Adam 73rd), international match at Olympic Park, crowd about 14,000. Referee: Jack Johnston (Tas.) 8.

AUSTRALIA: Crook 7 - Ratcliffe 6 - Davidson 8, Blair 7, Christopoulos 8, Niven 8, Katholos 7, Byrne 7 - Mitchell 7, Kosmina 6 (Soper 75th) O'Connor 8. Coach: Les Scheinflug.

NEW ZEALAND: Pickering 9 - Elrick 7, Herbert 8, Boath (injured, 16th min., sub. Adam 8), Armstrong 8 - Cole 7, McKay 6, Crosswell 6, Turner 6 - Wooddin 8, Nelson 6 (McClure 80th). Coach: Alan Jones.

And now comes England. That would have been a much more exciting prospect had the Socceroos beaten New Zealand at Olympic Park last Sunday but now it's the cause of some concern.

There were calls for wholesale changes after this defeat, but coach Les Scheinflug is above hysteria.

He and all of us saw what can happen if team changes are made willy-nilly. It was this type of instability that led eventually to Australia's downfall in the 1981 World Cup qualifying series.

But I am sure Scheinflug realises that he needs at least two — perhaps three players with more experience. In fact he said at the post-match Press conference that he's eager to hear from coaches who can recommend the right type of player.

What is needed is a few commanding personalities willing to "play the piano" as Peter Katholos puts it.

I'm sure we'll see APJA's Arno Bertogna coming into the team against England in June.

There is a need for a commanding centre back to partner Steve Blair. David Ratcliffe lacked a bit of speed and authority in that position against New Zealand. Tony Henderson could return to the sweeper's position, rather than Bertogna, in which case, Bertogna could go to right back where he played for some time with Newcastle KB United. It would mean that Alan Davidson would switch from right back to left back at the expense of Alan Niven who was on the left on Sunday.

A commanding midfielder also is required — but who? The question doesn't apply only in the midfield context, but across the board. Let's be honest and say that any difference in standard between the players on the field last Sunday and other good players across the country is only marginal if any.

So back to the midfield. The names that spring to mind are Jim Patikas, Peter Stone, Theo Selemdis (he had a great Ampol Cup series if you forget the final), perhaps Oscar Crino of whom I expect big things this year.

But really, you can't say that any of them would make a remarkable difference.

Marshall Soper comes into contention up front. The tall Sydney Olympic striker who



Former South Melbourne Hellas team mates, Alan Davidson (left) and Grant Turner, on opposing sides at Olympic Park on Sunday. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

replaced John Kosmina during Sunday's match is fast, fearless and skilful and probably will be in one of the starting line-ups against England. David Lowe of Newcastle probably isn't far from selection either. And Paul Kay, back from Charlton Athletic could be a dark horse, for the squad at least.

Looking at the nucleus of the side — Alan Davidson remains a vital cog.

If all players had his passion, his leadership qualities, his fanaticism and his energy on the field, we could win the World Cup. Steve Blair will stay, as will Peter Katholos, David Mitchell, Phil O'Connor, John Kosmina even though he was replaced last Sunday, and big George Christopoulos who is a most important player.

Christopoulos played as stopper against New Zealand, marking Keith Nelson while Blair picked up Steve Wooddin. As well as doing that defensive task, Christopoulos pushed up into midfield and did a lot of covering work for his team mates. He is the sort of commanding, strong player on whom our long-term hopes rest, but I can't help wondering whether the team wouldn't perhaps had more attacking thrust had Christopoulos not been given that marking duty.

Another nagging doubt in my mind is whether perhaps the players train a little bit too long for these matches. I could be wrong, of course.

Let's turn to New Zealand. It has beaten Australia four times out of five since 1979, the other result being a 3-3 draw.

It didn't play better soccer than Australia last Sunday, but it was well organised, resolute and took advantage of Australia's defensive lapses.

In addition, the New Zealand players generally are older and physically stronger than the present crop of Australians. They also have greater maturity.

These are all valuable assets. They are the assets Australia had in the 1973-74 World Cup campaign.

They defend well in numbers, they pick up and close down quickly, they are ever alert for a quick break.

The midfield is far from flashy. In fact, it's unobtrusive, yet it does its job well within the team framework.

Duncan Cole is the most powerful and incisive of those midfielders, but the real strength lies in defence —



Peter Katholos

Ricky Herbert, Glen Adam (who substituted for injured Alan Boath, also a very hard man), Ron Armstrong and the veteran of the team, Adrian Elrick.

Goalkeeper Barry Pickering is another trump. We all had expected Frank van Hattum — the World Cup 'Keeper — to get the nod, but Pickering was so precise and confident that he deserves the accolade of having been Man of the Match in the first game in Auckland.

Australia has greater ball skill and flair and it plays a possession game which contrasts with New Zealand's style but on Sunday at least, Australia's play often did not move forward fast enough, with the result that the forwards lost space in which to operate.

Still, the result may have been different had Katholos been a little luckier with a series of sizzling shot from the edge of the penalty area. All power to Pickering. He did his job well.

With Pickering so powerful, and Adam and Herbert impenetrable in the middle of the defence, Australia's best avenue of attack with winger O'Connor who continually beat men on the left.

Pickering's first good save was in the 7th minute when he flipped the ball over the top with his fingertips as O'Connor tried to chip it in after a through ball from Kosmina.

And at the other end, Blair stopped Wooddin in a dangerous position with a desperate slide tackle. Shortly afterwards Pick-

ering, under pressure from Kosmina, was unable to gather in a back-header from O'Connor. The ball bounced and hit the post before Boath belted it away for a corner.

Boath was hurt in a clash with Davidson and had to be replaced by Glen Adam in the 15th minute. Before that however, David Mitchell, away on a Katholos pass, squared the ball menacingly across the goal mouth without anyone being there to put it away.

Katholos, marked by Kenny Cresswell, forced Pickering's first save in the 34th minute after Mitchell had headed it down for the shot.

Then Christopoulos played a long through pass to O'Connor who wriggled into a shooting position. Pickering couldn't hold the ball on the ground. O'Connor got another chance but Armstrong took it off O'Connor's foot.

And so Australia was having the bulk of the play and certainly it was creating enough chances to win, but its play slowed down towards the end of the half and there was slow hand-clapping from the crowd before Niven and Katholos forced Pickering to save two more good shots.

Mitchell fell three times in two attacks inside the penalty area just after half time, but penalty appeals were rejected. Referee Jack Johnston and Pickering saved yet another good shot from Katholos.

One noticeable mistake by the Australian forwards was their failure to follow in on shots at goal. Had someone been running in, he may have scored in the 50th minute as Pickering could only repel a low shot from O'Connor. As it was, Herbert moved in to clear the loose ball.

Australia dominated play for 20 minutes after half time and O'Connor actually slammed the ball into the net from a through ball by Niven, but the move was ruled offside.

In the 64th minute the ball again ran loose as Pickering blocked a shot by Katholos but again no-one was following in to put it away.

New Zealand was being beaten thoroughly in midfield now, but that mattered little as Cole shot New Zealand into the lead in the 68th minute after Elrick, McKay and Nelson had worked the ball to the edge of the penalty area.

The second goal was an indictment of the Australian defence. Niven was playing the ball as the defence moved out square, and he lost it. The ball bobbed behind the defence, and Adam started chasing it. Goalkeeper Martyn Crook rushed forward quickly and did manage to dive at Adam's feet to smother. He could not however, gather the ball in, and so Adam was left with the simple task of putting it into the empty net.

In the last chapter, Marshall Soper came on for John Kosmina. Blair missed narrowly with a header and Davidson's backside saved Australia from another New Zealand goal.

It happened like this: McClure broke away through the midfield and spotted Wooddin clear to his left, with an unimpeded path to goal. McClure aimed a through ball towards Wooddin. Had it reached its mark, Wooddin certainly would have scored, but the pass bounced off Davidson's bum.

The Socceroos continued fighting, giving everything in their last desperate hopelessness of their position. New Zealand stood firm.

The Kiwis had earned their glory.



Australian captain John Kosmina (left) takes on New Zealand defender Glen Adam.

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AJAX WINS IT 'ALL WRONG'

'Expert' Bergers insult opponents and their club

GREEN GULLY AJAX 5 (Smallman 71st, 78th, Paul Lewis 26th, Boyle 61st, Williams 90th) HEIDELBERG ALXANDER 0. Victorian Ampol Cup final at Olympic Park Sunday. Crowd: about 12,000. Referee: Bambridge 8.

GREEN GULLY AJAX: Denys 8, Peter Lewis 7, Campbell 8, Short 7, Hogan 9, Vassallo 7, Smallman 9, Boyle 9 (Grocen 83rd), Williams 8 — Tool 9, Paul Lewis 7. Coach: Len McKendry. HEIDELBERG UNITED: Oliver 4 — McMillan 5, Yzendoorn 5, Macleod 5, Yankos 5 — Salamidis 4, Campbell (in, Petersen 16th 4) Spanos 4, Valentine 6 — Cole 3 (Paton 67th sent off 75th), Lee 7. Coach: Ken Morton.

Let's regionalise our national competition immediately! That's the only way we can allow quality teams like Green Gully Ajax to display their wares where they belong — at the highest level in the land.

More power to Ajax, its players, coach Len McKendry, its administrators and its playing style. What's all this rubbish I've been hearing since McKendry took over about Ajax becoming a boring side? Come to think of it, the only people who suggested that to me are people who don't like McKendry as a man or as a coach and don't agree with his philosophy on the game. Anyway, I met a couple of these critics after this match and they were pushing each other out of the way as they tried to grab the last few seats left on Ajax's bandwagon.

My, how the fickle fluctuate. Let's look at Heidelberg United, well, what's left of it.

Eight Heidelberg players attended the after-match medal ceremony. The others slunk quickly into the dressing room at the end of the game, their tails and egos trailing behind them. What they may not have realised is that there were thousands of eyes peering at them as they insulted their opponents by their absence.



By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Their act was despicable, deserving of the most scathing rebuke from the Heidelberg committee and fans. Their act typified their attitude toward playing for Heidelberg and new coach Ken Morton.

Jamie Paton's thoroughly undisciplined performance deserves special mention. Jamie's a friend of mine. Nevertheless, I want my comments about his action and attitude to go on public record. As a journalist I'm duty bound to my individual ethic. When a player comes on as a substitute in the 67th minute and is sent off eight minutes later, his pretensions to a label as a "professional player" are in question.

I don't think Paton is happy at Heidelberg. I don't think he enjoys his game anymore. And that's sad.

Especially so for a player who only two seasons ago, was playing for Australia.

That adage "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing" can be applied to a few players at Heidelberg.

One of the most insidious aspects of our coaching course structure is that far too many players are gaining their senior badges.

We must not lock ourselves into the thought that the senior badge carries with it as yet unpublished secrets to the definition of every act performed in soccer or to the way every such act must be performed.

Too many of our top players are "coaches", well qualified ones at that. Their knowledge directly threatens the credibility of their own coach. Some say that's a good thing. All true coaches, whatever that may mean, should have this knowledge, whatever this knowledge is, I'm certainly

not privy to such soccer "secrets" and, thank God, I don't coach Heidelberg.

I met another pal of mine earlier in the Ampol Cup series. I think it was the Hellas v Morwell Falcons clash. This friend was critical of the way the teams gave the ball away. I thought that the game was thoroughly entertaining because of the amount of chances created. From a "true coaching" point of view I was being incredibly naive. However, I enjoyed the game while he was left to ponder the inadequacies of the combatants' ability to hold possession. Poor fool, him.

Sigmund Freud's greatest failing was that he concentrated upon the negative aspects of the human personality. Despite his undoubted contribution to the fields of psychology and psychiatry, he forgot how to perceive a healthy personality.

I haven't forgotten how to enjoy soccer.

Back to the McKendry critics. "He (McKendry) suppresses flair. It's all this short, interpassing stuff. It's deadly dull," they bellow, ever louder when in the clutches of an alcoholic haze.

If these critics are correct then David Smallman will be transfer-listed immediately.

How dare Smallman have the audacity to play a 50 metre high ball to Paul Lewis in the 26th minute for Ajax's first goal!

As if that's not sacrilegious enough, this former Welsh international upstart had the cheek to curl the ball over the head of Jeff Oliver in the 71st minute and into the top far corner of goal!

He'll have to go! This heretic and his trea-



VICTORIAN AMPOL CUP



Bobby Toal, Ajax's crack striker, about to slip past fallen Heidelberg defender Charlie Yankos. Pictured by LES SHORROCK.

cherous flair threaten to corrode the essence of the supposed McKendry way of playing.

Smallman first covered himself in shame when he played a long, through ball to quicksilver Paul Lewis in the first half. Lewis motored toward Jeff Oliver who, amazingly, didn't come out of goal to challenge and then toepoked the ball under the diving goalkeeper and into goal from just six metres out.

It was a disgusting display from Lewis who should have come off his defender and ran toward Smallman to receive the ball at his feet. Or so the critics tell me.

A superb interpassing move,

much more acceptable stuff, in the 61st minute, led to Ajax's second goal. Peter Boyle to Jim Williams to Boyle caught the Heidelberg defence with its pants down. Boyle ran through, stroked the ball past Oliver from 12 metres and into the empty goal.

Two minutes later the ground announcer declared that two lost boys could be contacted by their parents in the ground manager's office.

The announcer should have called for the parents of the Heidelberg players to collect their lads who were, by now, lost somewhere out in the spacious playing arena.

John Yzendoorn had time in the 71st minute to effect a

better headed clearance. Instead, he headed straight to the feet of Smallman who glided past a defender and definitely should have passed the ball short rather than curve it into the top far corner of goal. McKendry must have been fuming by now.

Smallman had one more major indiscretion to commit. It came in the 78th minute. He should have chipped the ball to the back post where a couple of team mates were waiting. Instead, his lack of discipline got the better of him so he curled a low free kick through a couple of players and under the diving body of Oliver at the near post.

By now this disease was reaching epidemic proportions

among Ajax players. Toal came off his opponent in the 90th minute only to watch in dismay as team mate Williams thumped home a 30 metre shot into the roof of the net. McKendry was at his wit's end.

But he should take heart in the knowledge that Ajax can and will improve. God help the rest of State League.

Heidelberg may get worse, if players like Gary Cole stumble and fumble off the ball, the way they do when in possession.

Then there's goalkeeper Oliver. He caught a dose of the Patons near the end and started fighting with Peter Boyle.

Come to think of it, not only did the wheels fall off for the Bergers, they went rolling down Swan Street and don't look likely to be replaced. Ajax humbled Hellas in the semi-final and humiliated Heidelberg in the final.

Derek Lea though, can hold his head high. He never gave up in his first full game in anger for the yellow and blacks. He looked like the only Heidelberg forward capable of scoring.

Heidelberg won't win the national league this year. It won't even finish in the top four, the best news my bank manager has had in a long time because I've got a hefty bet on Sydney City to finish above the Bergers in the NSL. I think I can collect immediately.

But all is not lost for Heidelberg. I'm led to believe that there are quite a few NSL outfits as bad and that's the biggest condemnation of Australian soccer's premier competition one can imagine.

Ajax has only Croatia to contend with as it defends its State League championship.

This cup final win by Ajax will be long remembered. Years later, knowledgeable Victorian soccer fans will talk about a certain Sunday afternoon at Olympic Park when the green and whites from the Keilor tip rubbed their more glamorous foes.

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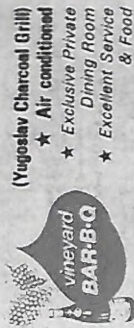
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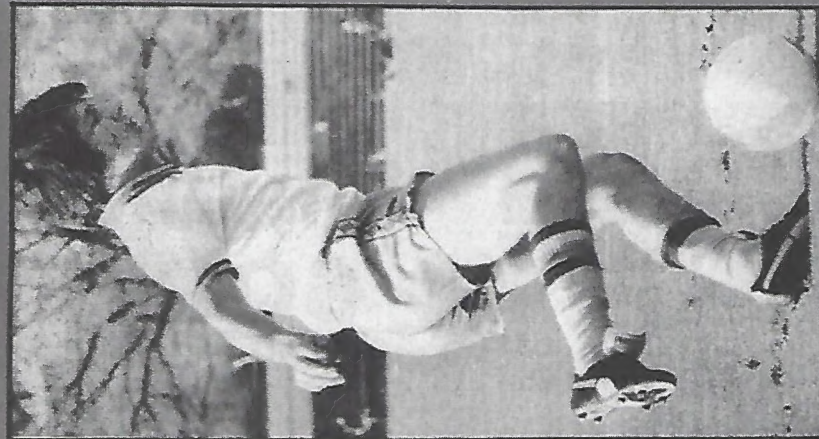
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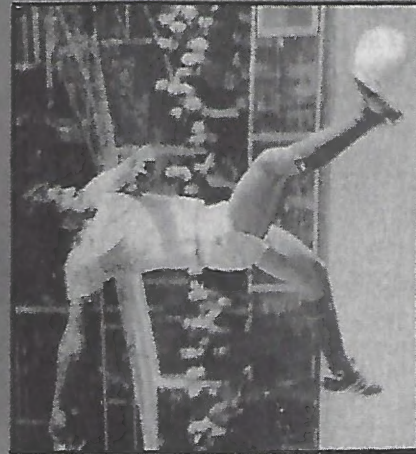
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APJA Leichhardt's elusive striker Tony Marsello



Sydney City Strong man Steve O'Connor.



Newcastle K.B. goalkeeper Phil Dando successfully smothering the ball.



Wollongong striker Roy Cotton

1983 NSL draw

ROUND 1 — March 13

Heidelberg v Leichhardt
St. George v Newcastle K.B.
Wollongong City v Brisbane Lions
Footscray v Preston
Sydney Olympic v West Adelaide
Marconi v South Melbourne
Brisbane Lions v Sydney City
Adelaide City v Canberra Arrows

ROUND 2 — March 20

Preston v Heidelberg
Leichhardt v St. George
Newcastle K.B. v Wollongong City
West Adelaide v Footscray
South Melbourne v Sydney Olympic
Sydney City v Marconi
Canberra Arrows v Brisbane Lions
Brisbane City v Adelaide City

ROUND 3 — March 27

Heidelberg v West Adelaide
Wollongong City v Preston
Brisbane City v Newcastle K.B.
Marconi v Canberra Arrows
Sydney Olympic v South Melbourne
Adelaide City v Brisbane Lions

ROUND 4 — April 3

South Melbourne v Heidelberg
West Adelaide v St. George
Preston v Wollongong City
Leichhardt v Brisbane Lions
Brisbane Lions v Marconi
Canberra Arrows v Sydney Olympic
Sydney City v Footscray
Newcastle K.B. v Adelaide City

ROUND 9 — May 8

Heidelberg v Sydney Olympic
St. George v Marconi
Wollongong City v Brisbane Lions
Brisbane City v Canberra Arrows
Newcastle K.B. v Sydney City
Leichhardt v South Melbourne
Preston v West Adelaide
Adelaide City v Footscray

ROUND 10 — May 15

Footscray v Heidelberg
Sydney Olympic v St. George
Marconi v Wollongong City
Brisbane Lions v Brisbane City
Canberra Arrows v Newcastle K.B.
Sydney City v Leichhardt
West Adelaide v Adelaide City
South Melbourne v Preston

ROUND 11 — May 22

Heidelberg v Adelaide City
St. George v Footscray
Wollongong City v Sydney Olympic
Brisbane City v Marconi
Newcastle K.B. v Brisbane Lions
Leichhardt v Canberra Arrows
Preston v Sydney City
West Adelaide v South Melbourne

ROUND 12 — May 29

Heidelberg v Wollongong City

ROUND 16 — July 3

Sydney City v Heidelberg
South Melbourne v St. George
Preston v Wollongong City
Leichhardt v Brisbane City
Brisbane Lions v Sydney Olympic
Canberra Arrows v Footscray
Marconi v Adelaide City

ROUND 17 — July 10

Heidelberg v South Melbourne
St. George v West Adelaide
Wollongong City v Preston
Marconi v Brisbane Lions
Sydney Olympic v Canberra Arrows
Footscray v Sydney City
Adelaide City v Newcastle K.B.

ROUND 18 — July 17

West Adelaide v Heidelberg
Preston v St. George
Leichhardt v Wollongong City
Newcastle K.B. v Brisbane City
South Melbourne v Footscray
Sydney City v Sydney Olympic
Canberra Arrows v Marconi
Brisbane Lions v Adelaide City

ROUND 19 — July 24

Heidelberg v Canberra Arrows

ROUND 23 — August 21

Heidelberg v Footscray
St. George v Sydney Olympic
Wollongong City v Marconi
Brisbane City v Brisbane Lions
Newcastle K.B. v Canberra Arrows
Leichhardt v Sydney City
Preston v South Melbourne
Adelaide City v West Adelaide

ROUND 24 — August 28

Heidelberg v St. George
Footscray v Wollongong City
Sydney Olympic v Brisbane City
Marconi v Newcastle K.B.
Brisbane Lions v Leichhardt
Canberra Arrows v Preston
Sydney City v West Adelaide
Adelaide City v South Melbourne

ROUND 25 — September 4

Wollongong City v Heidelberg
St. George v Adelaide City
Brisbane City v Footscray
Newcastle K.B. v Sydney Olympic
Leichhardt v Marconi
Preston v Brisbane Lions
West Adelaide v Canberra Arrows
South Melbourne v Sydney City

ROUND 26 — September 11

Heidelberg v Brisbane City
St. George v Wollongong City
Canberra Arrows v West Melbourne
Brisbane Lions v South Adelaide
Marconi v Preston
Sydney Olympic v Leichhardt
Footscray v Newcastle K.B.
Adelaide City v Sydney City

Brisbane Lions defender Col Bennett





Preston Makadonia's classy midfielder Zarko Odrakov.



The Macleod brothers, Heidelberg United stopper Don (left) and Footscray JUST striker Gue.

ST. GEORGE'S SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
Wollongong City v West Adelaide
Brisbane City v Preston
Newcastle K.B. v Leichhardt
Sydney Olympic v Brisbane Lions
Footscray v Canberra Arrows
Adelaide City v Marconi

ROUND 6 — April 17
Canberra Arrows v Heidelberg
Sydney City v St. George
South Melbourne v Wollongong City
West Adelaide v Brisbane City
Preston v Newcastle K.B.
Brisbane Lions v Footscray
Marconi v Sydney Olympic
Leichhardt v Adelaide City

ROUND 7 — April 24
Heidelberg v Brisbane Lions
St. George v Canberra Arrows
Wollongong City v Sydney City
Brisbane City v St. George
Newcastle K.B. v West Adelaide
Leichhardt v Preston
Footscray v Marconi
Adelaide City v Sydney Olympic

ROUND 8 — May 1
Marconi v Heidelberg
Brisbane Lions v St. George
Canberra Arrows v Wollongong City
Sydney City v Brisbane City
South Melbourne v Newcastle K.B.
West Adelaide v Leichhardt
Sydney Olympic v Footscray
Preston v Adelaide City



Sydney Olympic midfielder Jim Patikas.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v WEST AUSTRALIAN
Brisbane Lions v Preston
Canberra Arrows v West Adelaide
Sydney City v South Melbourne
Marconi v Leichhardt

ROUND 13 — June 5 or 12
St. George v Heidelberg
Wollongong City v Footscray
Brisbane City v Sydney Olympic
Newcastle K.B. v Marconi
Leichhardt v Brisbane Lions
Preston v Canberra Arrows
West Adelaide v Sydney City
South Melbourne v Adelaide City

ROUND 14 — June 19
Heidelberg v Newcastle K.B.
St. George v Brisbane City
Adelaide City v Wollongong City
Footscray v Leichhardt
Sydney Olympic v Preston
Marconi v West Adelaide
Brisbane Lions v South Melbourne
Canberra Arrows v Sydney City

ROUND 15 — June 26
Brisbane City v Heidelberg
Wollongong City v St. George
Newcastle K.B. v Footscray
Leichhardt v Sydney Olympic
Preston v Marconi
West Adelaide v Brisbane Lions
South Melbourne v Canberra Arrows
Sydney City v Adelaide City



Mark Jankovics (centre) of Marconi, in action for Australia.

BRISBANE CITY v ST. GEORGE
Wollongong City v Adelaide City
Leichhardt v Footscray
Preston v Sydney Olympic
West Adelaide v Marconi
South Melbourne v Brisbane Lions
Sydney City v Canberra Arrows

ROUND 20 — July 31
Brisbane Lions v Heidelberg
Canberra Arrows v St. George
Sydney City v Wollongong City
South Melbourne v Brisbane City
West Adelaide v Newcastle K.B.
Marconi v Footscray
Preston v Leichhardt
Sydney Olympic v Adelaide City

ROUND 21 — August 7
Heidelberg v Marconi
St. George v Brisbane Lions
Wollongong City v Canberra Arrows
Brisbane City v Sydney City
Newcastle K.B. v South Melbourne
Leichhardt v West Adelaide
Footscray v Sydney Olympic

ROUND 22 — August 14
Sydney Olympic v Heidelberg
Marconi v St. George
Brisbane Lions v Wollongong City
Canberra Arrows v Brisbane City
Sydney City v Newcastle K.B.
South Melbourne v Leichhardt
West Adelaide v Preston
Footscray v Adelaide City

ROUND 28 — September 28
Adelaide City v Heidelberg
Footscray v St. George
Sydney Olympic v Wollongong City
Marconi v Brisbane City
Brisbane Lions v Newcastle K.B.
Canberra Arrows v Leichhardt
Sydney City v Preston
South Melbourne v West Adelaide

ROUND 29 — October 2
Heidelberg v Preston
St. George v Leichhardt
Wollongong City v Newcastle K.B.
Brisbane City v Canberra Arrows
Sydney City v Sydney Olympic
Newcastle K.B. v South Melbourne
Footscray v West Adelaide
Adelaide City v Brisbane City

ROUND 30 — October 9
Leichhardt v Heidelberg
Newcastle K.B. v St. George
Preston v Wollongong City
Brisbane City v Footscray
West Adelaide v Sydney Olympic
South Melbourne v Marconi
Sydney City v Brisbane Lions
Canberra Arrows v Adelaide City



Adelaide City's John Nyskohus attempts a flying header at goal.

South Melbourne Hellas striker Steve Wooddin.

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SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 4 (Kalambokis 45th, 75th, 82nd, 98th) ALBION ROVERS 2 (Dickson 67th, Coyle 70th) at Middle Park. Buffalo Cup second semi-final. Crowd: about 300. Referee: Dale B.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Perreae 7, Davidson 7, Kakantonia 7, Kalitafidis 5, Kaiser 6 (Postecoglou 87th) — Van Egmond 6, Bozinovski 6, Kalogerou 5 (Kanasoulis H.T. 8) — Abraham 5, Patsakos 6 (Kassidas 61st), Kalambokis 3. Coach: Jim Armstrong.

ALBION ROVERS: Costello 6 — Ogden 3, Hennessey 7, Macleod 5, Dickson 7 (Lacoc 90th) — Ferrie 5, McMillan 6, Gales 7 — Coyle 6 (Reilly 80th), D'Sylva 4, Murphy 4 (Williams 53rd 4). Coach: Hugh Murney.

An outstanding physical and technical performance from teenage South Melbourne Hellas left winger Jim Kalambokis highlighted this epic extra time battle.

Kalambokis scored all four Hellas goals with a finishing expertise attributable to a veteran international rather than a 17 year old trying to establish himself in State League.

Albion right back Chris Ogden had a nightmarish clash with this exciting youngster. Ogden was completely bamboozled by the close ball skills and acceleration of Kalambokis and had little idea of how to check the superb off-the-ball runs by the young star. To be fair to Ogden, he was given little cover by fellow defenders Frank Macleod and Denn Hennessey who took the easy way out in 40 degree heat and propped in the centre of defence for most of the match.

Yet who can blame them? In equatorial heat fanned by a relentless north wind, referee Jim Dale decided to reduce the game to a 40 minutes each way affair. He could have been even more conciliatory.

Albion's Hennessey had a fine first half but faded after the interval as the heat got

the better of him. This teenager has great potential. He's come from the Tulsa Roughnecks to the Albion Brassnecks and although he still has to come to terms with a language barrier at Selwyn Park, his class shines like a beacon on the field. It won't take Hennessey long to attract the attention of national league clubs.

Two crucial coaching moves were instrumental in turning this match around from a scrappy to a thrilling affair.

The first, just before half time, was made by Albion coach Hugh Murney. Peter Dickson wasn't playing well at left back and Albion looked inadequate up front. Murney pushed Dickson forward, a move which was to prove vital in the second half as Dickson scored once and headed on for Albion's second goal.

The other move came from the Hellas camp. Jim Armstrong replaced George Kalogerou with John Kanasoulis at half time. Kanasoulis was the best midfielder on show for the remainder with just five minutes left enabled Hellas to level and take the game into extra time.

Let's look at the goals.

Hellas struck first, in the 45th minute. Kalambokis showed good control on the edge of the Albion area. He then played a delightful one-two with Vlado Bozinovski, got his body in front of Bennie Ferrie as he ran onto Bozinovski's return pass and hammered a low shot past Tom Costello from about five metres out.

A disastrous blunder from Chris Kalitafidis enabled Albion to level in the 67th minute. Frank Macleod thumped a long free kick downfield. Mick D'Sylva, rarely sighted, headed on but Kalitafidis seemed in complete control. However, with Dickson bearing down on him, Kalitafidis tried to tap the ball back to goalkeeper Mark Perree. To his horror, he realised all too late that Perree had charged off his line. Dickson simply ran around Kalitafidis and tapped the ball into the unguarded goal.

That goal heralded a time out period as Albion players stampeded first toward Dickson then, seconds later, toward the nearest bucket of water.

With just 10 minutes to go Albion scored what seemed certain to be the winner.

Dickson headed on and Keiron Coyle outstripped the defence then neatly clipped the ball past stranded Perree and into the vacant goal.

Albion players again made for the nearest water bucket, feeling a strange mixture of exhaustion and ecstasy. Kalambokis wasn't finished with them yet though.

He ran onto a Kanasoulis pass in the 75th minute and hammered a low shot from 12 metres which flashed past Costello and inside the far post.

Sensibly, referee Dale allowed a lengthy break at the end of normal time.

Kalambokis struck in the second minute of extra time and Albion had slipped from looking the likely winner to staring defeat in the face. All in the space of just 12 playing minutes.

Bozinovski's shot was too hot for Costello to handle cleanly and although Kalambokis didn't strike the ball properly he did enough to send it trickling into goal to give Hellas a 3-2 lead.

Albion's chances had slumped dramatically and the game developed into a farce when second string goalkeeper Danny Lacoc replaced Dickson at half time of extra time.

Either Lacoc had decided to try and make his mark as an outfield player or serious doubts must be cast on the depth of Albion's squad.

Kalambokis, drawing on seemingly endless reserves of energy, scooped past three flatfooted Albion defenders in the 18th minute of extra time, rounded Costello and stroked the ball into the gaping goal.

Hellas deserved this fine victory. It pushed the ball about better than Albion, albeit often square or back when Bozinovski was in possession.

It was a triumph for the enthusiasm of youth. And the skill of a developing star in Kalambokis.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



Sunshine-George Cross winger Jimmy McArthur.

Georgie fans restless, wee Jimmy still great

CROYDON 2 (Lia 11th, Rooney, penalty, 68th) SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS 0 at Middle Park. Buffalo Cup first semi-final. Crowd: about 300. Referee: Fokianos 6.

CROYDON: Kastner 7 — Rainey 7, McCombe 7, Dobson 7, Hobson 7 — Brown 7, Rooney 7 (Singleton 70th), Wade 6 — P. Loughnane 8, Irvine 6, Lia 6 (L. Loughnane 65th). Coach: Colin Hassler (Bill McArthur unavailable due to business commitments).

SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS: Contini 5 — Mussel 6, Lowe 6, Richardson 7, McKinlay 6 — Scari 5, McCann 5 (Rigby H.T. 5), Bennett 6 — Pate 5, Glider 5, McRobert 6. Coach: Tony Vella.

Sunshine-George Cross fans staged a heated series of rolling arguments among themselves and with their committeemen for almost an hour after Croydon had kicked out the combine from the 1983 Buffalo Cup.

It's fair to say that coach Tony Vella was the target of savage criticism. If these supporters, however, were a little less emotional and a damn sight more realistic they'd realise that the combine's first team squad isn't good enough to win any State League honors. Indeed, the combine is peeing in the wind if it thinks it can finish in the top four this season with its current playing staff.

Mick McGorian from Frankston Pines has trained with Sunshine-George Cross. The combine shouldn't let him slip through its clutches.

Sunshine-George Cross's strike force was abysmal against the well drilled Croydon defence last Saturday. Carl Glider and Norris Pate never looked like scoring. Jimmy McRobert tried hard with little effect.

Croydon was a far superior team unit. It boasted the most effective striker on show. Peter Loughnane, who kept running despite the oppressive heat.

Referee Jim Fokianos did little to endear himself to the Sunshine-George Cross fans. These fans screamed out for at least half a dozen penalties and when Fokianos pointed to the spot in Croydon's favor late in the game, he merely reinforced the uncompromising labels he had received for over an hour.

Fokianos rightly complained about the line marking before the kick-off. The Hellas camp offered the limp excuse that the regular line marking man was on holidays. His fill-in is believed to be a cross-eyed alcoholic with a chronic stutter.

Jimmy Rooney never ceases to amaze. I don't want to belabor the point but his enthusiasm for the game and his capacity to work suggests that a few players in Australian soccer give the game away far too early. As long as those wee Rooney legs keep pounding across the pitch let's hope that the former Soccerco captain continues to entertain us with his deft touches and vision. In Jim Rooney, Victorian and Australian soccer has the very man to put on a pedestal as an example to youngsters aspiring to greatness in the sport here. At least half of the combine's players couldn't hold a candle to Rooney on fitness alone. A far greater number don't come anywhere near to matching football wits and skill with the wee dynamo.

It took Croydon 11 minutes to send the combine reeling. Newcomer Steve Irvine, bought from Doveton for \$4000 despite the appeals board confirming the \$5000 put on his head by the Doves, set up the first blow with a superb back heel lay off. Reno Lia got the ball, pushed it to Mark Brown and took off into space on the left side of the combine's area. Brown passed back to Lia who didn't strike the ball firmly. Even then, Alan Contini couldn't stop it going into goal inside the near post although he got a hand to the ball.

Peter Loughnane went close to extending Croydon's lead twice within a minute. Three minutes before half time he strode past a defender on the right but Contini did well to dive down and smother. A minute later, Irvine played the ball inside from the left wing to Loughnane who rounded a defender but shot hard and low just wide of the near post.

Irvine sent Lia into the clear in the 55th minute but Contini charged well out from goal and smothered bravely.

Then Peter Loughnane was felled by Contini inside the area. Loughnane was on a tight angle and Contini may have been better advised to try and push Loughnane even wider rather than pull him down.

Rooney made sure from the penalty spot by striking the ball firmly into the top corner. And that was that. The combine was a beaten, straggly outfit.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



Albion's Man of the Match Dean Hennessey (left) kicks the ball away from Hellas forward Tom Patsakos.

Brown, Campbell swap?

Doug Brown may appeal to the ASF against the \$30,000 transfer fee placed on his head by Preston Makedonia.

The former Aberdeen, Sheffield United and Clydebank striker recently ended a two year contract with Makedonia and to date has failed to agree on terms for the coming season. Makedonia though, has a trump card, a one year option, to play. It only has to offer Brown the same terms to exercise that option.

"I think a move could be best for me and for Preston," said Brown.

"Coach Peter Ollerton told me that he wants me to stay. As long as I'm at Preston and training hard, Ollerton assured me that I would be part of the team.

"It's just frustrating, all this haggling over a contract." Brown has caught the eye of Canberra coach George Murray who was first team coach at Aberdeen during Brown's stint there. However, the \$30,000 transfer fee would seem prohibitive.

As we went to press, Makedonia hadn't got back on touch with South Melbourne Hellas manager-coach Rale Rasic over the pending transfer of Hellas midfielder George Campbell. Both clubs reportedly reached agreement on a \$15,000 transfer fee but Rasic and Hellas were waiting to finalise the deal.

Rasac has been looking for a right sided attacking player recently. He reportedly chased little Joe Watson but failed. Maybe Brown could be the answer.

If Rasac is interested in Brown, no doubt the pending Campbell move could be used in a swap and cash deal between Hellas and Makedonia.

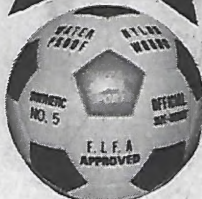
— CRAIG MACKENZIE



Doug Brown

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BUFFALO CUP

Croydon to win its first honor in State League

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

As we went to press, the Buffalo Cup final, between Croydon and South Melbourne Hellas, was due to be played on Sunday at Green Gully Reserve, starting at 3 pm.

Ian Loughane, recently returned from holidays, could come into the Croydon line-up at the expense of young Reno Lia, even though Lia scored Croydon's first goal in its 2-0 semi-final win over Sunshine-George Cross.

If Ian Loughane plays, then he'll probably work off newcomer Steve Irvine who laid off a couple of fine balls last Saturday and no doubt will knit into Croydon's style even more efficiently in coming weeks.

Croydon's most impressive line last weekend was its defence. And that could hold the key to the outcome of the final.

South Melbourne Hellas places a great deal of importance on the striking prowess of teenage winger Jim Kalamobilis. His attacking cohorts, Tom Patsakos and Pepe Abraam, must give him good support on Sunday.

Ian Dobson is a class sweeper. His most crucial task in the final will be to provide good cover for right back Mike Rainey, the man with the daunting task of trying to tame

Likely line-ups:

CROYDON			
Mike RAINNEY	Ian DOBSON	Steve MC COMBE	Gary HOBSON
Mark BROWN	Jimmy ROONEY	Paul WADE	
Peter LOUGHNANE	Steve IRVINE	Ian LOUGHNANE	
S.M. HELLAS			
Danny DAVIDSON	Steve KAKANTONIS	Chris KALIFATIDIS	Tony KAISER
Nick VAN EGDMOND	Vlado BOZINOVSKI	John KANASOULIS	
Pepe ABRAAM	Tom PATSAKOS	Jim KALAMBOKIS	

Kalamobilis.

Mark Brown's emergence as a midfielder is an added bonus for Croydon which boasts evergreen Jim Rooney and the elegant Paul Wade in this department.

This trio however, won't have it all its own way. Vlado Bozinovski and Nick van Egmond are regarded as two of the most promising midfielders in Victorian soccer. After last weekend's semi-finals you can add John Kanasoulis's name to that list.

Kanasoulis clearly was Hellas's best midfielder against Albion Rovers. He came on as a half time substitute for George Kalogerou and unless his eyes deceived me last Saturday, should be in the starting line-up this weekend. Kanasoulis was most impressive.

It's not simply a matter of youthful enthusiasm for Hellas in midfield. Skill abounds and will be seen at its best once these young players gain in confidence.

It's hard to see them downing the more experienced Croydon though.

Croydon is in with a chance of gaining its first State League honor. It just failed to down Ajax in the 1981 Ampol Cup, going down 3-2 thanks to an extra time goal from Gus Macleod.

It won't have a better chance of grabbing a State League honor on Sunday. After tipping Ajax to beat Heidelberg in the Ampol Cup I'm getting a bit blasé about my predicting ability.

Croydon will win. No doubt about it.



Danny McCluskey

LAUGHS WITH THE DOC

By JOE DOCHERTY



Dave Webb

Water-walker at J.U.S.T.?

MIRACLE WORKER AT SCHINTLER: Is it Big Gus or Jamma O'Reilly (by the way, the best player in the Ampol Cup series) or is it Dennis Boland (he's already worked some miracles between the posts)? It must be somebody, because right now Schintler Reserve is the greenest park in Melbourne. Maybe it is "Bobby Mac", the Footscray Messiah. Why, only last week, I saw him walking across Albert Park Lake. Can you just picture the wee man every training night, turning buckets of wine into water for the pitch? "Dae wan o' yon miracles, Bobby."

Brilliant!! By the way, my son, just watch out it doesn't become a case of "excuse me, Bobby, would you mind crossing your legs. We've only got one nail left."

BACK IN THE GAME: John Taylor, affectionately known as "Rab Haw the Gleggy Glutton," has signed for Heidelberg. Bundoora. His reason for signing? He thought Heidelberg-Bundoora was a cake.

CUP FEVER: The Albion Rovers players wanted to know if they won the 'Buffalo Cup, would they have got to go to Texas?

SUPER-FIT TEAM: That is the aim of Prahran City's new coach Frank Campbell. Frank is well on his way to achieving this aim: he's already got the boys doing his paper run.

NEW SIGNING: Polonia is about to sign a new centre-half and it's none other than the golden voice of the Windsor Castle Hotel, Danny McCluskey (Or will it now be Danny McCluski?) Heard Danny has just released a new record entitled: "When you Walkaki

through a Stormaki." Bound to be No. 1 on the Polish hit parade. Seriously folks, if you want to hear a very professional entertainer, go along to the "Castle", and listen to Danny and his band (the rhythm and Greens). First class indeed.

MEN AT WORK: Did you know the Macleod brothers, Donny and Gus, work together at the Yooralla Society in South Melbourne? Donny is a test-driver for the wheelchairs, while Gus is constantly under pressure. See, he's got to blow up the tyres on the wheelchairs.

DINK OF THE YEAR: Ten big points to Dave Webb, the former Slavia, Frankston City, Prahran City and Kaw City player, now playing with: Hmm!! Forget her name at the moment. Webbie reckons he deserves his rest on the old Tontine after a hard day at the 'Castle', contemplating a job.

THE CLASH: Tickets will be on sale soon for the forthcoming clash between Lyndale Utd and Murrumbidgee. Why is it all ticket? More in future editions.

MORE DINKS: Davie "Casper" Stuart (Albion Rovers) gets nine big points for when he was telling me about "A guy who was dubbed in" Cracker, Casper. Another nine big points to Victoria's right back (I don't know his name) who spotted a great-looking "Shella" up in Brisbane last week. Excellent, Big Yin.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For those in the dark, the Doc's "Dink award" is for outstanding examples of the ocker language or way of life.

Vasic spurs Richmond

Footscray J.U.S.T. must be blushing after last week's 4-1 loss to Metro First Division outfit Richmond in a friendly game.

Richmond made J.U.S.T. look pretty ordinary, in fact young Richmond winger, 17-year-old Angie Koutasos, ran rings around Igor Hazabent.

The experienced Hazabent lost his cool, took part in an off-the-ball incident involving young Koutasos, and was sent off.

Dragan Vasic, recently signed by Richmond from J.U.S.T., scored twice against his former team mates.

Richmond has signed Gerry

Edmondson from Frankston Pines for \$1500, Mirko Rujovic, on a free from Northcote and looks like having a strong squad this season.

Player-coach Mike Kupinic is confident that his team will be challenging for championships honors in 1985.



Ajax celebrates Sunday's Ampol Cup triumph. From left: Lou Denys, Mario Berg (team manager), David Houghen, Stuart Cannell, Peter Boyle (holding the cup), Peter Lewis (obscured), Paul Lewis.

CUP RESULTS

Results of last weekend's first preliminary round of the Metro League Cup:

Moorabbin 4 Rosebud 1; Melbourne 1 Keilor Austria 0; Nunawading City 1 Ringwood Utd Serbia 0; Keysborough defeated St Albans 6-5 on penalties; Moreland 2 Broad-

meadows 1; South Oakleigh v. Doncaster (not played); North Dandenong v. Preston Macedonia (not played); Frankston Pines 1 Springvale City 0; Thomastown 1 Greensborough 0; Nth Geelong 3 Mornington 0; Bell Park 1 Richmond 2; Dandenong City 2 Waverley Utd 1; Heidelberg Utd 1 Hawthorn 4; Geelong 0 Western Suburbs 3; Karingal 5 Fer-

nree Gully 1; Werribee 0 Knox City 1; Ardeer 1 Footscray J.U.S.T. 2; Altona City defeated Altona Gate 5-4 on penalties; Royal Richmond 2 Brighton 1; Hamlyn Rangers defeated Sunbury Utd 5-4 on penalties.

Results of last weekend's first preliminary round of the Provisional League Cup:

Melton 3 Diamond Valley 1; Parkmore 0 Mitcham 2; Brunswick City 1 Abbotsford 6; South Yarra 3 East Carlton 2; Yarraville 3 Malvern City 2; Clarinda-Koooyong 1 Kyneton 3; Geelong Utd 4 Ballarat 3; Mordialloc 5 Dingley 1; Clifton Hill 3 Central City 1; Bullen 5 Pascoe Vale 4; East Brunswick 6 Burnley 0; Clayton 4 Hawksburn 1; Regent 2 Altona Utd 4; Boronia 2 Cambourne 0; Holland Park 4 Berwick City 1; Batman Lazio 0 Hampton Wanderers 1; Murrumbidgee 0 Cheltenham 2; Seaford Utd 1 Langwarrin 2; West Brunswick 0 Port Utd 2; University of Melbourne 2 Nunawading Utd 1.

Results of last weekend's first preliminary round of the Provisional League Reserve Cup:

Pascoe Vale 0 Clarinda 4; University of Melbourne 8 Clayton 0; Cranbourne 4 West Brunswick 2; Brunswick City 2 Monash Uni 1; Langwarrin 1 Lalor Utd 0; Holland Park 7 Parkmore 0; Altona Utd 3 Nunawading Utd 1; Regent 2 Yarraville 3; Clifton Hill 4 Nth Sunshine 0; Carlton 4 Mossfield Rangers 3; South Yarra 6 Melton 8; Diamond Valley 2 Mitcham 0; Hawksburn 11 Burnley 0; Malvern City 1 East Brunswick 2; Boronia 5 Dallas City 4; Batman Lazio 1 Bullen 2; Central City 0 Lyndale Utd 6.

IN BRIEF

Utility player Billy Rae is available for transfer from Mordialloc for only \$500.

Rae, 33, who excels as sweeper or in midfield, formerly played for Box Hill, Albion Rovers, Hawks and Melbourne.

John Scholten wants a club. He's approached the VSF and is asking for a free transfer from Bell Park.

The experienced goalkeeper previously played with Sunshine. He can be contacted at work on 841 0222 or at home on 873 4306.

Provisional League club Lyndale United signed Alan Whitaker from Frankston Pines last Monday. Lyndale also is rumored to be keen to sign Mark Robertson from Knox City.



Billy Rae



John Scholten

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Paolo Rossi — counting up the coins and forgetting the goals?



Italy's World Cup hero and European Player of the Year Paolo Rossi is now a fallen idol with some Juventus fans who are hounding him from pillar to post over his poor scoring record recently. The locals reckon that Rossi, who is cashing in as a male model, is too busy counting his money to bother too much about finding the net.



Paolo Rossi and an Italian fan celebrate one of Rossi's World Cup goals.

Moore loss?

Former England soccer star Bobby Moore may lose his \$5,000-a-month luxury flat in Hong Kong. Eastern Athletic, the top Hong Kong club where Bobby is a \$2,600-a-week coach, has failed to pay the rent.

Angry Taylor

Graham Taylor, who has taken Watford from the Fourth Division to near the top of the First Division with a straight no-nonsense type soccer, is fuming over criticism he has received as part-time coach of England's youth side. Inference has been that Taylor is using the Watford long passing game to achieve his aims with the youngsters — something he strongly denies. He is likely to quit the youth post after the European Youth Championships in May.

Viv to go

Latest shock to emerge from Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest is that England defender Viv Anderson is up for sale for an expected \$500,000 fee. Clough recently bought Aston Villa defender Kenny Swain for a mere \$40,000 to fill a gap when Anderson was



sidelined through injury. Swain's coming led to Anderson's departure to help Forest finances.

Champion!

Bob Sutherland, the former Glasgow Rangers footballer whose career ended in 1968 with a knee injury, has turned up triumphs in another sport. Bob recently won the indoor singles bowls championship of the world.

Gould fine

Bristol Rovers boss Bobby Gould, ex-Chelsea star, fined himself \$400 for calling a referee a cheat. And Gould is likely to face an F.A. ban or fine in addition.

Poaching

Derby County has been ordered to pay Bradford City \$110,000 compensation for illegally poaching the Yorkshire club's player manager — Roy McFarland, a former Derby and England international. It was the first-ever price fixed by the Football League Commission on a managerial transfer. Bradford was seeking \$400,000.

Brooke hurt

Spurs' midfielder Gary Brooke is recovering in an intensive care unit after suffering head injuries and cracked ribs in a car crash.

Marry me

Soccer fan George Warder used a giant stadium to write an early Valentine message of love.

George, 27, of Childwall, Liverpool, sneaked into the Anfield ground before the crowds arrived on Saturday and tipped the seats in the Kemlyn Road stand to read: "Marry Me."

His girlfriend Jan McIlraith, 24, from Tarbock, Merseyside, spotted the message immediately — and accepted.

Hinton goes

Ex-Derby County winger Alan Hinton has been dumped as coach of Seattle Sounders. Hinton had been at the Sounders' helm for two seasons. Cliff McGrath, coach of Seattle Pacific University, is tipped to take over with the Sounders.

Cup draw

The draw for the quarter-finals of the English F.A. Cup, to be played on Saturday, March 12: Crystal Palace or Burnley v Sheffield Wednesday; Middlesbrough or Arsenal v Aston Villa; Manchester United v Everton; Brighton v Norwich.

Cash squeeze

Ipswich Town ordered a cash squeeze within the club only days after opening a new stand. Club chairman Patrick Cotbold, head of a brewery, said directors will have to pay their own fares to some away matches while the Ipswich practice of flying to some of the games has ended.

Mora back

El Salvador's World Cup goalie Mora, who conceded 10 goals in the game against Hungary in the World Cup at Elche, has been asked back to Spain to coach a local side at the same stadium.

Robson best

Jimmy Greaves, the former Spurs and England star now carving a name for himself on T.V. and as a columnist with several publications, reckons there is only one player in the Football League who could benefit Italian soccer — Bryan Robson, the Manchester United and England midfielder and Britain's costliest player. Greaves once played for A.C. Milan.

From JIM COOK
our European
correspondent

\$3,000 Best?

George Best, who still has big unresolved tax problems, can always pick up more than a crust. Southern League side Waterlooville is offering the former Manchester United star \$3,000 to turn out with it when it plays the Maltese national side later in the season.

Italy shoddy

Italy must be wondering if its World Cup Final win was a dream for it hasn't won a match since beating West Germany 3-1. Three draws in the European Championship including a recent shoddy display against lowly Cyprus, means Italy faces a tough task to qualify for the 1984 European finals in a group that also includes Czechoslovakia, Romania and Sweden.

N'Kono tops

Thomas N'Kono, Cameroon's World Cup keeper now with Espanol, has been



Cameroon international goalkeeper Thomas N'Kono — voted the best foreign player in Spain.

voted "Best Buy of the Season" for all foreign players in the Spanish League. Denmark's Lauridsen, also of Espanol, was second, Argentina's Barbes of Zaragoza third, with Holland's Johnny Metgod of Real Madrid fourth. Completely out of contention were Diego Maradona and Bernd Jucker who tied for 11th spot.

Aas quits

Einar Aas, the 27 year old Norwegian international who cost Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest \$200,000 from Bayern Munich under two years ago and has only played 21 games for the club, has been forced to quit soccer through a recurring groin injury. Aas had not played for Forest for 15 months after breaking his leg and rupturing ankle ligaments against Sunderland.

200 for Bob

Bob Latchford, the former Everton and England striker, currently with Swansea has now notched up over 200 goals in his Football League career.

Cup cut

Condensed Milk Cup? That's what it has been called next season as moves are afoot to reduce the competition to 32 clubs.

King Charlie

Charlie Nicholas, the 21 year old Celtic striker who has



Bob Latchford — 200 goal milestone

netted nearly 40 goals already this season and is the most wanted player in European soccer, has been offered a king's ransom to stay with the Glasgow club after his present contract expires in three months time. The new deal would make Nicholas, who is Europe's leading scorer, the highest paid player in Scotland on a four year contract.

Butchers!

Barcelona, now nicknamed the Spanish Butchers, could be in real

SOCCER AROUND THE WORLD

Imagination

A book has been published about Rachid Mekhloufi, the Algerian international team boss, with the title: "Imagination At The End Of Your Feet"

Review back?

Former England and Leeds United manager Don Revie is planning to retire after two more seasons as boss of Dubai side Al Nasr. Revie then wants to return to England to run an amateur team.

Stuart axed

Chelsea's chief scout, Ron Stuart, who formerly managed Blackpool, has been axed in an economy drive. Stuart, who has been with the club 16 years, will be replaced by a part-time scout.

Hail Francis

Trevor Francis hasn't played a full game for Sampdoria for six months through injuries but the fans haven't forgotten him. At their recent game supporters held a 25-yard-long banner declaring "Trevor, we're all with you" while his name was chanted throughout.

Robertson free

Former Hearts and Dundee United left winger has been freed by Hibernian and can be contacted on 031-868-1262, which includes the code of Edinburgh. Player is Malcolm Robertson.

Rangers offer

Rangers, in the doldrums all season, are on the verge of making a substantial double-barrelled offer for two Dundee stars 25-year-old defender Cammie Fraser and 20-year-old striker Iain Ferguson.

Milutinovic

New team boss of Mexico's national team is Yugoslav Bora Milutinovic who was coach to French side Nonaco. He will also coach club side Universidad de Mexico.

Czech cut

Czechoslovakia is whittling its top league down from 16 clubs to \$24 million.



Trevor Francis in training — still trying to shrug off a series of injuries.

14 mainly to help preparations for its national side.

\$24 mil boos

Tottenham Hotspur has a move in the pipeline which would fill Wembley Stadium as well as wiping out its massive \$8 million debt. Wembley officials have given Spurs the O.K. to promote a repeat of the recent American Superbowl final between Washington Redskins and Miami Dolphins. Spurs currently are negotiating with film producer John Marshall on the project but they must come to terms with the American football authorities to get the game in August off the ground. The commercial value of the match alone in America was worth \$24 million.

HOFF BEAT THE DOC AND RUDI

Although both Tommy Docherty and Rudi Gutendorf were leading contenders for the post of Austrian team manager, it was the relatively unknown Eric Hoff who gained the appointment.

Hoff, who made 36 appearances for Austria as a centre or inside forward, had guided FK Austria to three successive league championships before resigning on April 1 last year following a disagreement with the club's president.

The Austrian federation initially appointed the former Wiener SK player for a trial period of three months before extending his contract until July 1984.

Under the 46 year old Hoff, Austria won its three opening European Championship fixtures and this, combined with West Germany's shock loss in Belfast, gives it a great chance of qualifying for the finals from Group Six.



— PAUL MOON

Rudi Gutendorf



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COACH



El Salvador international goalie, Mora, watches helplessly as a Belgian shot finds the mark in the 1982 World Cup finals. Mora is going back to Spain to coach.

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PAESI E CAMPANILI

Grande giornata calcistica domenica scorsa all'Olympic Park di Melbourne con la finale della Ampol Cup e l'incontro internazionale Australia - Nuova Zelanda.

A parte i risultati strepitosi, il 5-0 rifilato dal poderoso Green Gully alla squadra di Lega Nazionale dell'Heidelberg e il 2-0 imposto alla nostra nazionale dai cugini neozelandesi che insistiamo a non voler prendere sul serio, il lungo pomeriggio ha avuto per noi una morale che pian piano ha fatto venire alla mente in toni nitidi quello che da anni ci ossessionava come un incubo confuso di cui non si riesce a puntualizzare i particolari al

risveglio da una nottata di sonno agitato.

Il tutto è cominciato con il doverci abituare a tre ore di giochi senza ascoltare un nome italiano, né di squadra, né di giocatori impegnati con alcuna delle quattro formazioni in campo. C'era una squadra maltese, una greca, un allenatore tedesco a giocatori di varie nazionalità fra la stragrande maggioranza scozzese-inglese.

Quello che ci ha punto di più nel nostro orgoglio di italiani è stato che nella nazionale verde-oro c'erano ben due giocatori locali di origine greca — Christopoulos e Kathalos — giusto per parlare di una nazionalità alla quale siamo più affini e alla quale veniamo più sovente avvicinati.

E il paragone, tutto a nostro sfavore, si è allargato a livello di clubs, di organizzazioni, di dirigenti federali, di impianti sportivi, di pubblico.

Siamo arrivati alla conclusione che il calcio italiano, specialmente a Melbourne, è una cenerentola che non regge il confronto nemmeno con la piccola comunità di quell'isolotto del Mediterraneo che risponde al nome di Malta.

I motivi di tanta mediocrità calcistica di una comunità per la quale il calcio è quasi una religione e che ha la più grande tradizione di qualsiasi altra nazione in questo campo, sono indubbiamente molti e complessi e non è questa la sede per fare un'analisi completa. Ma per conto nostro il cardine di tale problema è la mentalità, passata a campanilistica che abbiamo portato con noi in questa terra. A Melbourne ci sono circa 30 squadre (squadruccole sarebbe il termine più appropriato) di calcio italiano che fraccionano le risorse finanziarie, organizzative e di seguito della nostra comunità.

Almeno una ventina di queste squadre non hanno il materiale umano e il motivo di esistere, ma nascono, proliferano e vanno avanti fra stenti, sacrifici inutili, drammi a non finire, litigi all'ordine del giorno, quasi al solo scopo di creare 30 presidenti, 30 segretari, 30 tesoriere, e un numero infinito di dirigenti di vario livello. Considerando poi i costi e le dimissioni all'ordine del giorno questi tanto inutili "posti al sole" si moltiplicano notevolmente ogni anno, con gli estromessi che fondano una nuova squadra o si intrufolano in squadrette già esistenti e le cambiano in squadre "italiane".

L'Australia una volta era la terra dell'improvvisazione e dell'ardimento dettato dall'ignoranza nel campo del lavoro e dell'imprenditoria per cui si vedevano manovre che diventavano appalti, macellai che facevano gli agenti immobiliari, contadini che aprivano ristoranti e via di seguito. Fra i pochi successi che tutti notano, ci sono stati tanti fallimenti che nessuno vuol ricordare e quindi, specialmente in un differente clima economico, una maggiore razionalizzazione delle varie carriere aperte all'individuo a seconda delle sue capacità ed esperienze.

Ma questo strano stato di cose esiste ancora nel campo dello sport calcistico locale. I nostri clubs sono pieni di gente che fino all'altro giorno non avevano visto una partita di pallone e oggi, grazie a titoli,

dati e presi alla leggera, di presidente, segretario, direttore tecnico, direttore sportivo e via di seguito, sono diventati degli "esperti" che esercitano tanta autorità da decidere il futuro di uno sport che non è certo del più semplici a tutti i livelli.

Spesso si sente di "sacco" dato ad allenatori che hanno un rispettabile bagaglio tecnico, di qualifiche date a giocatori che potrebbero avere un futuro con dirigenti migliori, e tanti altri banali colpi di testa di questi dannosi dirigenti che della loro posizione capiscono soltanto l'autorità e non i doveri, il lavoro, lo spirito di conciliazione e di cooperazione, il senso di modestia verso gente che ha giocato il calcio a livelli elevati e che esercita la professione di allenatore dopo anni di successiva preparazione, lo spirito paterno verso ragazzi che si avvicinano alla carriera sportiva e che hanno bisogno di comprensione e di incoraggiamento.

La domanda che viene naturale è: "Come può una gente a rimanere in carica con tanta carenza di qualità sportiva, amministrativa e umana?". Innanzitutto perché tanto basso livello scorgia la partecipazione di gente meglio preparata; secondariamente perché questi incapaci hanno tuttavia il sesto senso del sopravviverci che li spinge a frasi una base di potere. Essi nominano come allenatori della gente senza un passato calcistico di nota e che sono perciò grati e riconoscenti (e dai le lettere ai parenti in paese: "Sono allenatore di una squadra di calcio"). E a soffrirne sono i ragazzi condannati a interminabili giri di campo come fossero dei marioneti, a schemi di gioco che sono la negazione dello sport del calcio, a istruzioni di rompere le gambe agli avversari e, tutto sommato, a rovinarsi la carriera sportiva prima ancora di iniziarla.

Altra componente nella base di potere di questi "dirigenti" è rappresentata da amici e parenti che vengono fissati in comitato e dai genitori dei ragazzi che vengono fatti giocare, e ricevono trofei alla fine dell'anno, senza meritarselo di capacità propria. Costi abbiamo un panorama di dirigenti incapaci, di allenatori impreparati, di ragazzi sacrificati e di ronzi che danno zampate al povero pallone. Come ci si può poi aspettare di vedere le nostre squadre nelle finali dei grandi tornei come l'Ampol Cup e i nostri ragazzi in maglia verde-oro a rappresentare l'Australia in campo internazionale?

Ancora una volta ci auguriamo di non aver offeso nessuno e che questa nostra sincera preoccupazione allo stato delle cose nel nostro calcio di merito a coloro a cui si riferisce e di incoraggiamento a quegli altri, che sono tanti ma soffocati dalla maggioranza inetta, che hanno o si sono fatti una adeguata preparazione; che riescono ad accettare posizioni umili perché apprezzano il senso del dovere molto di più di quello del comandare; a quegli altri che scandono come "presidenti" ma rimangono a lavorare in altre mansioni perché non tengono al titolo ma all'essere sportivi e a coloro che sanno apprezzare la preparazione e l'importanza di tecnici e giocatori.

E soprattutto ai tanti che

vengono avvicinati per far parte di comitati e che rifiutano perché onestamente non si sentono all'altezza.

E' pur vero che un dirigente di un club calcistico non deve necessariamente avere esperienza personale dello sport, purché abbia capacità dirigenziali e la modestia di lasciare le cose strettamente tecniche a coloro che ne hanno fatto un mestiere. Uno dei ricordi più amari dei nostri anni nell'ambiente calcistico a' il modo come Manny Poulakakis fu trattato l'ultima volta che allenò la Juventus. Ex portiere internazionale, ex allenatore di grandi squadre in Australia, titolare del massimo certificato di allenatore rilasciato dalla F.A. inglese, oggi assistente allenatore della più grande squadra del campionato greco, definito da molti esperti "il miglior cervello calcistico in Australia", Manny fu offeso, umiliato e condannato da gente che ancora oggi non sa se il pallone sia quadrato o rotondo. E l'elenco di allenatori e giocatori che sono stati rovinati o perseguitati da dirigenti incapaci e presuntuosi è tanto lunga da formare una litania di accuse che condanna il nostro calcio. E la lista di giovani promesse che si sono perse a causa degli stessi dirigenti e ancora più lunga, quasi come quella dei "feti calcistici" che sono stati abortiti da "allenatori" di squadre giovanili per i quali l'unico rimedio sarebbe un processo per crudeltà verso il genere umano.

E per questa volta chiudiamo qui l'argomento, pronti a riprenderlo nel futuro nonostante le proteste di coloro che non sanno accettare la critica costruttiva e che si sentono offesi dalla verità.

GRANDI SEGRETI

Alla Juventus è stato sempre difficile mantenere i segreti ed un altro caso si è verificato domenica scorsa quando la squadra avrebbe dovuto disputare una partita di allenamento "segreta" contro il Northcote. Infatti non ci è stato alcun avviso di alcun genere su alcun giornale italiano o australiano, alla radio etnica o a mezzo di qualsiasi altro organo di informazione.

Ma nonostante la massima "segretezza", circa una dozzina di tifosi sono riusciti a sapere della partita e sono accorsi al John Cain Stadium per vedere i propri beniamini battere il Northcote con una rete di Zinni e una di Lloyd.

Non è stato un grande spettacolo, siamo d'accordo, ma perché non dare ai tifosi queste basilari informazioni per poter seguire la squadra del cuore?

PRECISAZIONE

Teniamo a precisare che il gran numero di errori tipografici contenuti in questa colonna sono dovuti al fatto che essa viene composta in una tipografia australiana in cui nessuno capisce l'italiano e in cui è perciò impossibile poter far fare anche una elementare correzione di bozze. Fino ad ora siamo stati fortunati che gli errori di composizione non abbiano ancora travisato il senso degli articoli e dobbiamo rimetterci a questa fortuna fino a che non sarà possibile trovare una soluzione.

ABC says no to soccer

Now it's official: The ABC has scrapped its plans for a weekly National League TV programme.

After extended negotiations, the ABC failed to gain TV rights for at least some of the Soccer's international matches.

And the ABC has made it clear that without international matches, there would be no NSL programme.

That programme was to have been shown weekly on about 200 stations throughout Australia.

The loss of that TV exposure is a bitter blow to the NSL.

And it is the result of the ASF handing rights to international games to the Seven Network, whose first coverage was of the Australia-New Zealand match last Sunday.

That game was shown in Sydney but not in Melbourne.

However, the games against England in June and against China, Uruguay and Cameroon in October will go to air in Melbourne as well as Sydney.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

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(Marconi)

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(Brisb. Lions)

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ZIKA NIKOLIC

LEKCIJA NACIONALNOJ LIGI I AUSTRALIJI

Dupli program na Olimpijskom Parku zaslužio je veću posetu. Svakako 10.000 ljudi nisu za bacanje, ali to je daleko od broja gledalaca na sličnim utakmicama u prošloj deceniji. Publika je izgubila poverenje u današnje igrače, koji su razmazani, precejnjeni i preplaceni. Da je to tako, najbolje pokazuje rezultat finalne utakmice za Ampol kup u Melbourneu. Prvak Državne lige Green Gully Ajax pregazio je Heidelberg Aleksandra sa 5:0 (1:0), što je veliki samar klubovima Nacionalne lige, koji treba da budu elita naseg nogometa. Pokazalo se i ovoga puta da li velikih igrača ne moraju biti veliki tim. Na sreću, Green Gully ima dobre igrače, ali i dobar tim, kojima je uspeh na zelenom polju važniji od novčane nagrade. Njihov uspeh nije slučajna igra, nego nereseno sa Makedonijom, iako su bili bolji, ali neiskusni. Pobili su zatim JUST-a sa 1:0 i Helasa sa 2:0.

Vreme je da igrači Nacionalne lige izvuku pouku iz ovog Ampol kupa, koji je otvorio njihove slabosti zbog kojih je sve manje gledalaca na našim stadionima. Očigledno je da lažne veličine, uključujući trenere, gospodare Nacionalnom ligom Australije. Takav duh se preneo na reprezentaciju Australije, koja ne može da izadije na kraj sa skromnim igračima Novog Zelanda. Dva poraza za pet dana ne mogu se opravdati nikakvim razlozima, iako Australija oba puta nije igrala loše, čak je bila bolja od neugodnog protivnika. Sta sve to vredi, kada se na kraju utakmice računaju golovi.

POČETAK NACIONALNOG KUPA 6. MARTA

Dva lokalna derbija otvorice početak borbe za Nacionalni kup Australije. Helas igra protiv Makedonije na Middle Parku, a JUST dočekuje Aleksandra u Footscray-u. Po onome što su pokazali u Ampol kupu, obe utakmice nemaju favorita. Makedonija je jedina pokazala znake oporavka u prijateljskom susretu sa Croatijom, koju je pobedila sa 4:2. Aleksandar je demoralisan posle teskog poraza, ali ne treba zaboraviti da JUST doživljava sličnu krizu. Na trening utakmicama "plavi" su igrali kao pocetnici, iako su imali slabe protivnike. Richmond je lako pobedio JUST-a sa 4:1, što je mali rezultat, jer je Dragan Vasic promasio šest "sitera". Doveton je takođe pobedio "plave" sa 4:2, pa nas ne bi cudilo kada bi drugi tim odrzao lekciju starijim kolegama, jer više postuju tradiciju i ugled svog kluba.

Omo što nisu mogli da urade protivnici, postigli su juniori JUST-a ispod 11 godina. Pobili su Ajaksa sa 7:0 (6:0). Strelci: Robert Tripunovski 4, Miro Samanovic 2 i Damir Gajdic.

METROPOLITAN KUP

ARDEER — DRUGI TIM J.U.S.T. a 1:2 (1:1). Ovo je prva pobeda "plavih" u Ardeeru. Iako je bila nesnosna vrucina, mladi igrači JUST-a su pokazali izdržljivost koja zadivljuje. Domicin je neocakivano poveo sa 1:0. Nije dugo potrajalo do izjednačenja. Strelac je bio levi bek Vasko Stojcevski, koji je sa 20 metara

pogodio protivnicke rasle. U drugom poluvremenu "plavi" su postigli još 3 gola, ali sudija je priznao samo jedan Toma Karica. Ponistio je golove Roberta Stolfie i Ariel Perez Reigose, koji su bili regularni, narocito Arielov, jer je lopta iz mreže izletela u igru, što sudija nije primetio. Ne treba mu zameriti, jer je vrućina bila paklena, pa se polivao vodom svakih pet minuta. U predgri je rezerva JUST-a pobedila takođe sa 2:1 (1:0). Strelci: Petar Krnic i Jim Fernandez. NUNAWADING CITY — RINGWOOD UNITED/SRBIJA 1:0 (0:0). Heroj ove utakmice bio je Jimmy Milisavljevic, koji je spasio svoj tim od tezeg poraza. Branio je kao u mladim danima, kada je uspesno cuvao mrežu JUST-a i reprezentacije Australije. Navala Srbije je imala lepe sanse, ali neprecizne pucace.

ALTONA GATE/VARDAR — ALTONA CITY 4:5 na jedanaesterce. Utakmica se posle produzetka od 20 minuta završila nereseno 0:0. Igrači Altona City su iskoristili svih 5 jedanaesteraca, dok je najbolji i najiskusniji igrač Vardara Milan Micevski promasio protivnicu mrežu sa bele tacke. Altona Gate je igrala bez Borisa Celestevskog, koji se istog dana ozlemio sa simpatikom Mary, takodje Makedonkom, rođjenom u Melbourneu. Svadbeno veselje je odrzano u Makedonskom socijalnom centru u Ep-pingu.

Nije odigrana utakmica između drugog tima Makedonije i North Dandenonga, jer su gosti odbili da igraju na pomocnom igralistu u Reservoiru!

PROVIZIONALNI KUP

REGENT — ALTONA UNITED/VJOVDINAS 2:4 (2:1). Strelci: Slobodan Dimitrijević i Miki Cvetkovski. Vojvodina se razigrala tek posle odmora, kada je pregazila umornog domacina. Najbolji igrači: Tome Dimovski, Paul Gallo i Miki Cvetkovski.

Rezerva Vojvodine se takođe plasirala u drugo kolo, posto je pobedila Nunawading United sa 3:1 (2:0). Strelci: Jan Cuz, Charlie Galea i Andrija Kotvas. Najbolji igrači: Martin Stresnjak, Jan Cuz, Charlie Galea i Andrija Kotvas. Najbolji igrači: Martin Stresnjak, Jan Cuz i Misa Oravec. PARK-MORE/PLVI DUNAV — MITCHAM UNITED 0:2 (0:1). Plvi Dunav je imao nekoliko prilika da zatrese mrežu gostiju, ali navalni igrači su bili neodлучni. Najbolji igrači: M. Mistic, A. Amburs i M. Djarmati.

Holland Park je pregazio rezervu Plavog Dunava sa 7:0 (4:0).

HAWKS BURN — CLAYTON 1:4 (1:2). Jedini gol je postigao Janos savo u 22. minutu. Nesto bolji od ostalih bili su Stjepan Kanton, Slavko Visic i Jani Palo. Neuspeli prvog tima popravila je rezerva Hawksburna koja je katastrofalno pobedila Burnley sa 11:0 (3:0). Strelci: Vili Garamsegi 4, Steve Bleskanj 3, Joe Forai 2, Slavko Drljic i George Antal po jedan.

Rezerva BRATSTVA/JEDINSTVA će verovatno ispasti iz kupa zbog administrativne greske. Sekretar nije primetio da rezervne kup utakmice pocinju u 1 po podne, pa je pozvao igrače da dođu na igraliste oko dva sata. Sudija i gosti iz Seaforda su cekali 30 minuta i razišli se svojim kućama.

DRUGO KOLO PROVIZIONALNOG I METROPOLITAN KUPA

U subotu 5. marta igra se drugo kolo Metropolitan i Provizionalnog kupa. Drugi tim JUST-a gostuje u Coburgu. Utakmica pocinje u 2,45 po podne. Altona United/Vojvodina docekuje na svom igralistu Geelong United. Carlton/Mladost je domacin Macleod Unitedu, dok Springvale United odlazi u goste East Brunswicku ili Burnleju. I Lalor/Sloga odlazi u goste Claytonu.

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ροβίλης, γιά την φετινή σεζόν υπάρχει
πλοσίνο έμψυχο όλοι οι στόχοι θα είναι
οι πάλι η κατήχηση του τίτλου.

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Αποσώμας δεν άρκετοι παικτες του Πέλο-
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ρίντα.
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Τρεις παικτες της Ν.ΣΑΛΑΣ προπονήθη-
καν με δύο σωματεία κερώνοντα.
Στην περίπτωση αυτή δεν οφείνται οι ποδο-
σφαιριστές αλλά τα σωματεία και μέλη της
Ελληνικής ποδ. τοξ. οργάνωσης.
Δεν θα άνωθούμε προς το παρόν και πι-
στεύουμε ότι θα συμμορφωθούν με τους κα-
νόνες της Ομοσπονδίας.
Πάντως γιά μία άνοχη φορέ άπελθγεται ή
... καλή θέληση και οι... φίλικες σέ-
σεις των Ελληνικών μας σωματείων πολλά
ακό θα όποια περιμένουν να γίνει το θε-
ρινό τουρνουά γιά ν... κοινοήσουν κα-
νενα παικτή.
Και μετά σοβ μιλάνε μερικοί γιά καλές
προθέσεις και καλές σχέσεις... ένός οι
έλλοι... πού τά χέρουν δια είναι σκέτα
φίλοι...
Ν.ΣΑΛΑΣ

Προκηρύχτε στην Ν.ΣΑΛΑΣ ανέλαβε ο γε-
νικός άρχηγός Μανώλης Βάσης.

"Η στήλη θα ήθελε να προειδοποιήσει πε-
ρισσότερο τους παργόντες του σωματείου
πός ο τεχνικός όσο και καλός άν είναι,
όά πρέπει να έχει την συμπαράσταση από
όλους.
Η Ν.ΣΑΛΑΣ πού χρόνια τώρα έχει... άποιο
υποβελ χόρος και μόνο στην καλή νοοτρο-
πία των όθων κηρύδων της, φαίνεται
ότι και φέτος θα έχει όδωκολη χρονιά.
Είναι κάτι πού το γράφουμε από τότε,
γιατί όίγουρα μερικοί άπό όλους με τις
πρότες άποτιχές - πού δεν τό εχόζμα-
στε φυσικά - άά σήμασούν τό άρρωστημέ-
νο και χουντικό άνωστημά τους και άά
τά βάλουν με τον προπονητή.
Μά και τον χερρέρα να κέρουν ένελ,εί-
ναι όίγουρο πός άά τά βρεϊ όδωκολα.

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ΔΟΞΑ ΣΤΑ ΠΑΡΑΡΤΑ 3 ΜΑΛΒΕΝ 2

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ένα άναταλληλο και ζερό γήπεδο ή γηπε-
δόχος άδλα και το Μάλβερν πάλασαν δυ-
νατά άλλά μέσα σε άθλητικά πλαίσια γιά
τό προβίζιοναίό κάπ.

Το Μάλβερν άνωξε ναρίς τό σκόρ με τον
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έντιμύνο.

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δ Μανέν άπέκρουσε.
Στην επανάληψη το Μάλβερν έπωσε σε από-
δοση και κλείστηκε στην περιοχή του.
Έχασε μία καλή ένοκαιρία να κάνει τό
2-0 και ή άδρα με τον Πέλο Καλλιπολίτη
ισοοόρισε γιά να πετύχει και δεύτερο
τέρμα με τον Έκτο Μελέτα.

Ακόμα μετά το Μάλβερν ισοοόρισε 2-2 με
τον Βαχματζί άλλά οι παικτες της άδρας
με μία θαυμάσια ένέργεια και περίσσιο
σούτ στο Πέλοη Ηελήτη πήραν έίναυα
την νίκη και την πρόκριση γιά τον έκομο
νο γύρο.

Και οι ?? παικτες πού άγωνίστηκαν άξι-
ζουν συγχατήρια γιά τό άθλητικό τους
παιγνίδι και γιάτί παρουσίασαν ένα κα-
λό ήπαμα παρά τις καιρικές συνθήκες οι
όποίες σπαώφιστε δεν ήταν γιά να άγω-
νίστει κανένας.

ΔΟΞΑ: Π.Αποστολίδης, Σουμπίρης (78' Που-
λιόνης), Ν.Αποστολίδης, Αμμαντίλης,
Δημητρίου, Βουλγαράς, Καλλιπολίτης, Πα-
πέδωπουλος, Ηελήτης, Βαυδωπουλος (88'
Χόνης), Πετρίδης.
ΜΑΛΒΕΝ: Μανέν, Παπαδόπουλος, Μενίδης,
Τσιόσης, Σταθόπουλος, Κυριαζόπουλος,
Παυλίδης, Δελγιμάνης, Αιχόβης (Πεω-
γιάδης), Πέσιος, Βαχματζίς.

ΠΟΙΟΣ ΜΠΟΡΕΙ ΝΑ ΠΙΑΣΕΙ ΓΙΑ ΤΟΝ Α.Ν. ΜΑΚΕΝΤΡΟΥ

Κυριακάτικα ό πετυχημένος προπονητής
Αλέν Μανέντρου έβαλε τά... γυαλιά σε όλους
και πήρε ΠΑΝΑΤΕΑ τό "Απολό Κάπ ΙΥ83".

"Η όδωλα του Γερήν Ηέλλου ή ΑΤΙΕΣ όπως
την θέλουν οι φίλαθλοι, έκανε περίφημες
έμφανίσεις στην διοργάνωση του Κυπέλλου
μήπως άρα στός ημιτελικούς όπου κέρδι-
σε την Ψάλας και συνέχισε την παραομένη
Κυριακή στην τελική όπου διέλυσε τον
"Αλέξανδρο όχι με 2-0, όχι με 3-0 άλλά
με 5-0 κάτι πού δεν άά τό χεχόσουν πο-
τέ οι φίλαθλοι του Πέλας οι όποιοι πήγαν
στό "Ολυμπια Πάρκ όίγουροι ότι έά έβα-
λουν νίκη της ομάδας τους.

Οι παικτες του Μανέντρου όμως ήταν συχο-
μένοι. Είχαν κείσση, είχαν άποτελεσματι-
κήτητα και είχαν πύνο άκ' όλα πίστη γιά
την νίκη, κάτι πού έλειπε από τους "Πολε-
μιότες" πού κάθε άίλο παρ... "πολεμι-
στές" ήταν στην τελική του "Απολό.
Γεγονός είναι ότι ό Αλέν Μανέντρου άπέδει-
ξε την άξία του.

"Έξωτε σε πολλούς πού άμφοιστούν τά
προσόντα του ότι χέρει να κερδίζει όποι
υψίστη άντιπαλο άνδρα και άν λ...
Ψάλας ή "Αλέξανδρος και ός είναι τό
Γερήν Ηέλλου σε μικρότερη κατηγορία.
Είγουντα την Αλέν Μανέντρου άά τον θεω-
νται γιά πού τόό το Ψάλας, όσο και το
"Αλέξανδρο.

"Όσο άέ ή άπτι άπτή με 5-0 "να είναι
και μοιραία γιάτί άκ' ότι είδαμε μετά
την συνάντηση, τά πράγματα δεν όφονταν
και τόσο καλό γιά τό νόν Δ.Συμβολίο
και τον προπονητή.
Γιά μία άνοχη φορέ ήπρόδο στό Γερήν
Ηέλλου και συγχατήρια στον πάντα έ-
ξιο Αλέν Μανέντρου.

"FROM THE PENALTY SPOT"

IT'S CUP-TIME AGAIN!



NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

Presents

THE NATIONAL SOCCER CUP

ROUND ONE

In Melbourne — Two Stirring Encounters

THIS SUNDAY MARCH 6th

FOOTSCRAY v HEIDELBERG Schintler Res. k.o. 3pm

SOUTH MELBOURNE v PRESTON Middle Park

and

ADELAIDE CITY v WEST ADELAIDE Hindmarsh Stadium k.o. 2.30pm

BRISBANE CITY v BRISBANE LIONS Perry Park k.o. 3pm

MARCONI v SYDNEY CITY Bossley Park k.o. 3pm

ST. GEORGE v SYDNEY OLYMPIC Barton Park 3pm

SATURDAY MARCH 5th

NEWCASTLE K.B. UN v LEICHHARDT International Sports Centre 3pm

CANBERRA CITY v WOLLONGONG CITY Seiffert Oval Queanbeyan 7pm